FEBRUARY 1984
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COMPUTER & VIDEO GAMES



FREE 52 page BOOK OF GAMES

PROGRAMS FOR THE
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COMMODORE 64, DRAGON, VIC-20,
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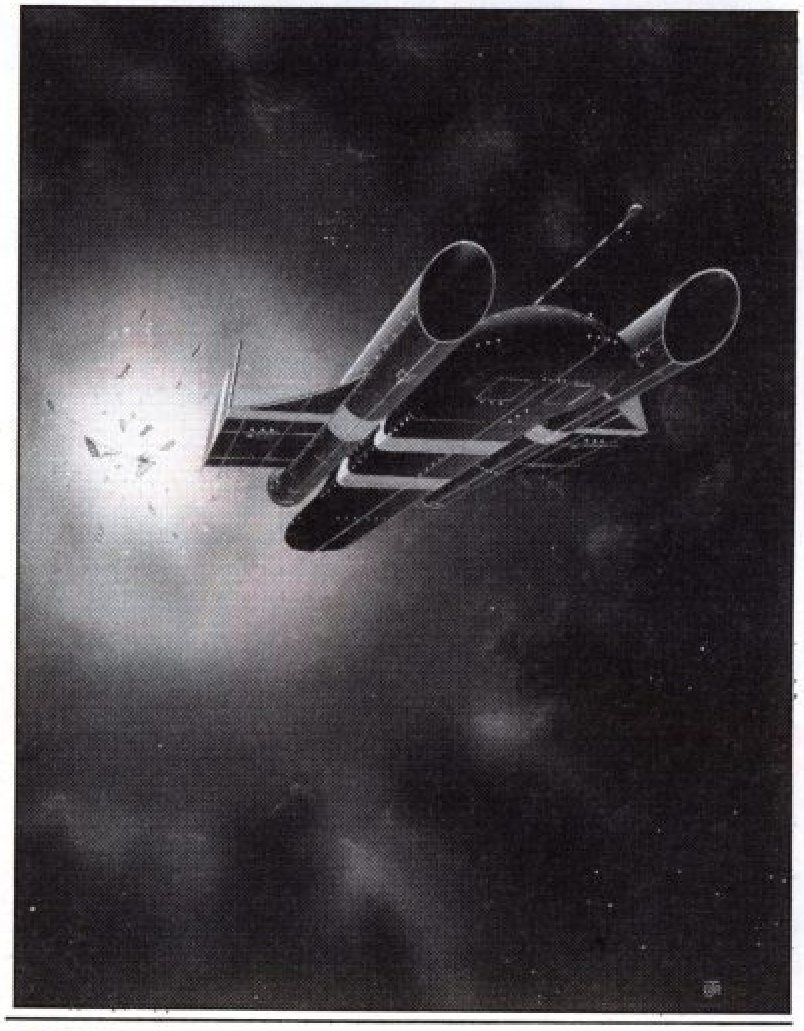
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...THE YEAR OF THE GAME LORDS.

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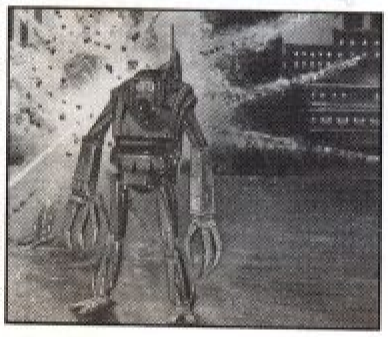
Bumper bundle!

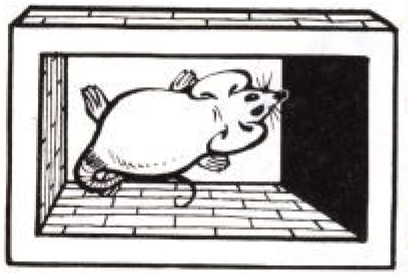
If you are looking for software for that new computer Santa brought you this Christmas, then this issue of *Computer and Video Games* is the one for you! If you look carefully, you'll find a bumper 52 page Book of Games attached to the issue. It's packed with listings for all the top micros — and there are a few surprises among them, believe us! All that, plus the regular bundle of top games listings in the issue itself. What more could a micro owner want!

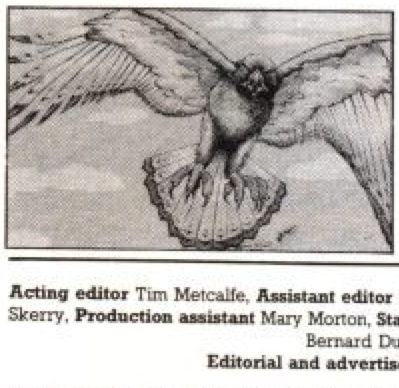
What indeed! Well, how about a run down of the latest extra bits you can plug in or add on to your computer to make games playing more fun? Or perhaps you'd like to read the inside story of the origin of that lovable denizen of the arcades, Pacman? There's more from Japan too in this special feature.

News & Reviews

Listings







Features

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Cover illustration: **David Rowe** Next issue: **February 16th**


HOW TO MAKE A RED DEVIL SEE RED
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Please drop us a line at: Computer and Video Games, EMAP, Durrant House, 8 Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5JB.

MODEM FOR THE DRAGON

Dear Sir,
In your December issue you stated you do not know of any modems currently available for the Dragon 32.

Not so! Microcomputer Resources Ltd manufacture a Prestel/Viewdata interface which will allow you to link up to Micronet.

Maplin Electronic Supplies also sell a RS232 interface kit which enables Dragon users to link up to virtually any viewdata system or even Maplin's own Cashtel system.

S. C. Parnell,
Benfleet,
Essex.

BBC MICRO MYSTERY

I own a BBC Model B and at the side of my micro's keyboard there is a hole which is covered with plastic. I know I am not telling you anything you don't know but along with a few of my friends who also own BBC micros I could not resist the temptation to push it in. When it came off, I found that instead of seeing an interface for the ROM cartridges, which I had expected to see, I saw over half of the loudspeaker overlapping from the position where it should have been.

This mispositioning of the loudspeaker accounted for the coarse sound I had been getting even on a −15 setting. This was easily overcome by just taking the cover off and moving it slightly. But I still do not know what I set out to find in the first place so could you please tell me when the ROM cartridges will be available in the shops?

Jason Dines,
Billericay,
Essex.

Editor's reply: At the present moment there are no ROM cartridges available for the BBC. Acornsoft are thought to be planning to release games cartridges some time in the future. As soon as they are out you'll be able to read about them in our Games News pages.

STOPPING THE VIC

Dear Sir,
I am writing to enquire what POKE command can be used on the Vic-20 to stop the STOP key functioning. I have seen this used on cartridges for the Vic-20, as when the STOP key is pressed, which would normally break out of the program, the program will continue as normal.

Andrew Griffiths,
Mirfield,
W. Yorkshire.

Editor's reply: The run/stop — restore keys can be disabled with this line: POKE 808, PEEK (808)+2:POKE 37150, PEEK (37150) AND 127: The keys can be turned on again with this line: POKE 808, PEEK (808)−2:POKE 37150, PEEK (37150) OR 127.

POKEING THE ATARI

Dear Sir,
I own a 16k Atari 400 and recently I came across a few POKES. When I POKE 742,0 I discovered I now have 63k. Is that true? And also am I the first to discover that POKEing 703,4 into the memory gives a text window to GR0? Finally, the POKE which was published in December's issue was in the Atari Basic reference manual anyway! (Appendix 1-3).

Michael Yick,
Sowerby Bridge,
W. Yorkshire.

Editor's reply: Unfortunately, expanding your Atari's memory is not so simple, or cheap.

As you type in a Basic program, the amount of free memory goes down. The computer, therefore, keeps a counter in its memory with a value to tell it how much memory is remaining. So when you ask your machine how much free RAM you have, it simply looks at the value of this counter.

You have probably guessed that part of this counter is at location 742, and what you are doing is altering this counter. This does not alter the amount of RAM, but alters the amount which the machine THINKS that it has!

If the machine thinks that it has more memory than it should, it will try to let you type in a larger program than allowed. This will then cause a crash, probably erasing all your hard work.

The only use for such a POKE command is to fool your friends into thinking that you've typed a 48k program in, in 10 minutes!

INTERFACE PUZZLE . . .

Dear Sir,
I will soon be purchasing a ZX Spectrum and am puzzled over which interface to buy with it. The interface module I'm after should be able to be used with most of the software for the Spectrum 48k i.e. most of the games from Ultimate, Imagine and Silversoft. Another factor to be taken into account is price. I would want it to cost about £15 to £20, maybe a little more. Please could you also recommend the best compatible joystick with price to be taken into consideration.

R. J. Cosgrove,
Wrexham,
Clwyd.

Editor's reply: There are a lot of joystick interfaces around and all use different software. Most new software will probably be written for the new Sinclair Interface 2 although the only one that works with all games would be a programmable Interface such as the AGF. One of the most popular joysticks is the Kempston Interface and joystick, with a price of around £30.00.

WORRIED TEXAS . . .

Dear Sir,
Recently, whilst browsing through the mags shelf of my local W. H. Smith, I noticed a computer magazine screaming that Texas instruments are pulling out of the home computer market due to great financial losses.

Two questions — does this mean that TI will not be manufacturing any more cartridges, modules, ROMS (whatever you want to call them!) and secondly, does this mean the price of printers, disc drives modems etc. will come down in price?

The article says, "as many as half a million units could be sold off before Christmas for as little as £50 each." I, being a TI user, am worried in case my machine goes wrong — will TI repair it?

Paul Boakes,
Rochester,
Kent.

Editor's reply: TI's announcement that they are pulling out of the home computer market is bound to lead to slashed prices on hardware, software and peripherals.

On the subject of servicing, TI have promised to offer a service to all people who bought their machines. There is considerable pressure on them to keep this promise and keep faith with the public.

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BLASTERMIND!

SPECTRUM 48k £5.50

At first glance this might seem to be just another version of a very popular game. How wrong can you be!!! True, the start is simple enough. The Spectrum picks a code of numbers or colours with a selection of levels of difficulty — and invites you to do the same. You then take it in turns to guess each others code from the clue supplied after each guess. An extremely well written, fast and very clearly displayed game, with almost inevitable defeat.

This was exactly as intended but unfortunately *something went wrong*. During the programming strange uncomplimentary messages began to appear on the screen. At first they were so few they were not taken too seriously, but soon they could no longer be ignored. Somehow the Spectrum had been given a personality — a rather devious, supercilious, dislikeable, hateful, horrible mind.



Side B contains a version of the game compatible with the excellent Currah µSpeech unit — even worse!!

The Quest of Merravid

VIC 20 (16k) £7.95 or Commodore 64 £7.95

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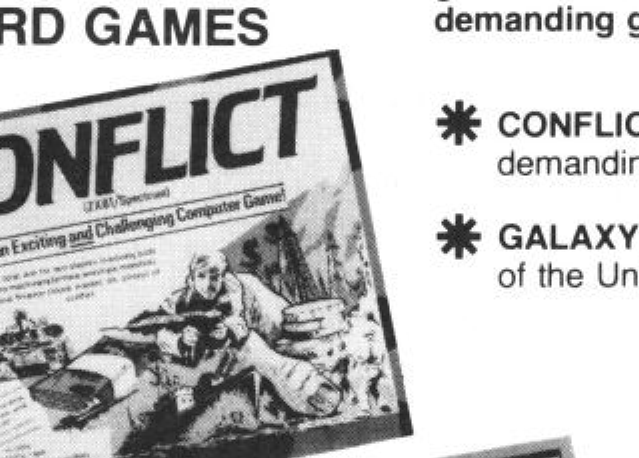
The adventurer becomes Merravid, charged with the task of finding, taking and then returning the magic Firestone of the Dwarves. However, overcoming the many novel and original hazards is no easy matter. Careful and imaginative thought is required if progress is to be made and the Firestone tracked down to the lair of the Dragon of Thargon. Even then the Dragon has to be defeated and the stone retrieved. A compulsive, extremely enjoyable and very user friendly adventure.



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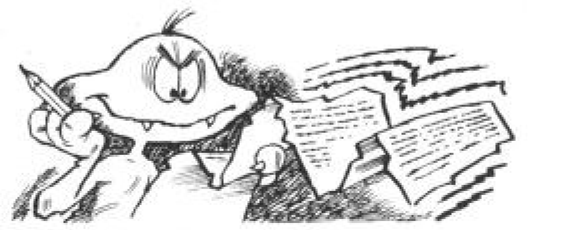
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QUALITY NOT QUANTITY?

Dear Sir,
I have recently heard people criticising the CBS Colecovision because of the price of the games. These people are mostly Spectrum owners and I feel that this is a certain case of "quality not quantity". The Coleco system has by far the best graphics, better than nearly all home computers, and the games are ones which gamers are not likely to get bored with quickly.

The software list will be enhanced by Activision, Parker and Imagic, the latter's games for Intellivision being startling, so the games for the Coleco should in theory be truly magnificent when you consider the huge amount of built-in ROM.

I feel that anyone who seriously wants arcade-type games at home should go for the CBS Colecovision. Should this letter be published, I feel it would put many Spectrum owners very firmly in their place.

Tom Stungo,
Aylesbury,
Bucks.

REVIEWER RAPPED

Dear Sir,
I am writing to you because I am disgusted with your reviewer's views on the Electron. I do realise that the reviews are the opinion of one person, but before he makes any comparisons with another machine he should make sure he has all the facts.

Firstly, I would like to know why in his review of the Acorn Electron he states that it's a superior machine to the Atari? The Electron cannot produce sound through the television like the Atari. It has only 16 colours and Atari has 256 with 128 displayed at any one time.

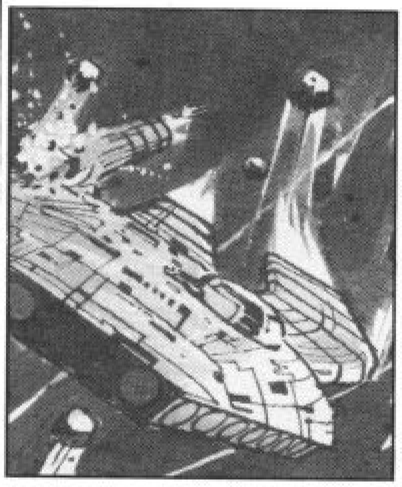
There are many more differences, which in my opinion make the Atari far superior. I am slightly biased, just like your reviewer seems to be towards the Electron and BBC machines.

In the review on the 600XL and 800XL he states that the 600XL is 16k standard, but it can actually be expanded to 64k, and the 800XL comes with 64k. Both machines have 24k ROM and not 10k ROM as stated.

I would also like to add that one great advantage that the Atari gives, is the compatibility between the old and new machines. Unfortunately, a lot of manufacturers (i.e. the Acorn Atom and Electron which are two totally different machines requiring separate software), do not consider the users. Therefore, I thank Atari for enabling me to keep all my software library which has cost me over £200 plus, when I upgrade to their latest model.

I would just like to say that I find your magazine excellent, but please review your reviews before you publish. Wrong information could easily mean the downfall of a good machine.

R. T. Green,
Crumpsall,
Manchester.



VECTREX ERRORS?

Dear Sir,
I recently purchased the Vectrex computer games system and have found a few faults with two of its games, Spike and Minestorm.

The instructions for Minestorm say that when you clear thirteen minefields you enter a new universe with space ships and space dust to contend with. So far I have cleared 24 minefields with no sign of a new universe at all. Is this a misprint in the booklet?

The second game Spike gives you a lot of points if you move Molly's cage to the far left of the screen and jump for it. You lose a life but you can get a maximum of 65,000 points for doing this. Is this a fault or is it intended?

J Hansford,
Doncaster,
S. Yorks.

SNOWFLAKES FOR ORIC

Dear Sir,
As it is approaching Christmas and the colder months, there will be some snow (hopefully). But just in case there isn't, here is a program for Oric 1 owners. It draws snowflakes and develops into quite a nice pattern when the screen fills up.

```
10 Paper/0:INK 7
20 HIRES
30 POKE #26A, 10
40 X = (RND(1)*200) +20
50 Y=(RND(1)*160)+20
60 P=(RND(1)*255:PATTERN
P
70 CURSET X,Y,1
80 T=(RND(1)*12)+2
90 FOR A=1 TO T:CIRCLE
A,FB
100 FB=INT (RND(1)*4)
110 NEXT A
120 GOTO 40
```

This program runs on a 48k Oric. However, for the 16k version just miss out line 30.

Chris Speight,
Bedale,
N Yorks.

SPECTRUM COMPILER

Dear Sir,
Having recently started a course at university which involves computer programming with Pascal, I am interested in buying a Pascal compiler for my 48k Spectrum to help me with my studies. Please could you tell me where I could get one and how much it would cost?

John Peden,
Renfrewshire,
Scotland.

Editor's reply: The HiSoft Pascal is available for the 48k Spectrum from HiSoft, 13 Gooseacre, Cheddington, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, LU7 0SR for £25.00.

STIX AND STONES . . .

Dear Sir,
Although we were pleased to see that our game *Stix* for the Commodore 64 was reviewed in your December issue there does seem to have been some confusion on the part of your reviewer.

The game concerns a struggle to contain an evil bundle of energy known as the Stix so that its power can be harnessed for good rather than evil. Force fields must be built, using the "field synthesisers" provided. Each game starts with four.

There are a number of hazards to avoid — the most dangerous of these is the Stix itself), and to quote from the instructions supplied with the game:

"The second hazard results from a design fault in the field synthesisers (the manufacturers have promised to put it right in their next model, but that isn't going to help you now). If you pause for more than an instant while constructing a force field, the field stabiliser disengages sending a ripple of energy through the field that will destroy the synthesiser (unless you can complete the field before the ripple arrives). Listen out for the hissing sound that the ripple makes as it moves through the field."

Unfortunately in the review this particular feature of the game is described as "a software design fault" and the reviewer finishes by saying that "Although the game was exciting to play, I feel this particular version will have to iron out its mentioned defects to become a games player's favourite". Defects?

I hope that this letter doesn't sound like sour grapes. We've had so many excellent reviews of *Stix* that we can handle the odd mediocre one. But to state that the program is being sold with a known fault in the software doesn't enhance our image, nor is it fair to the author, Andrew Trott.

Peter Calver
Supersoft,
Wealdstone,
Middlesex.

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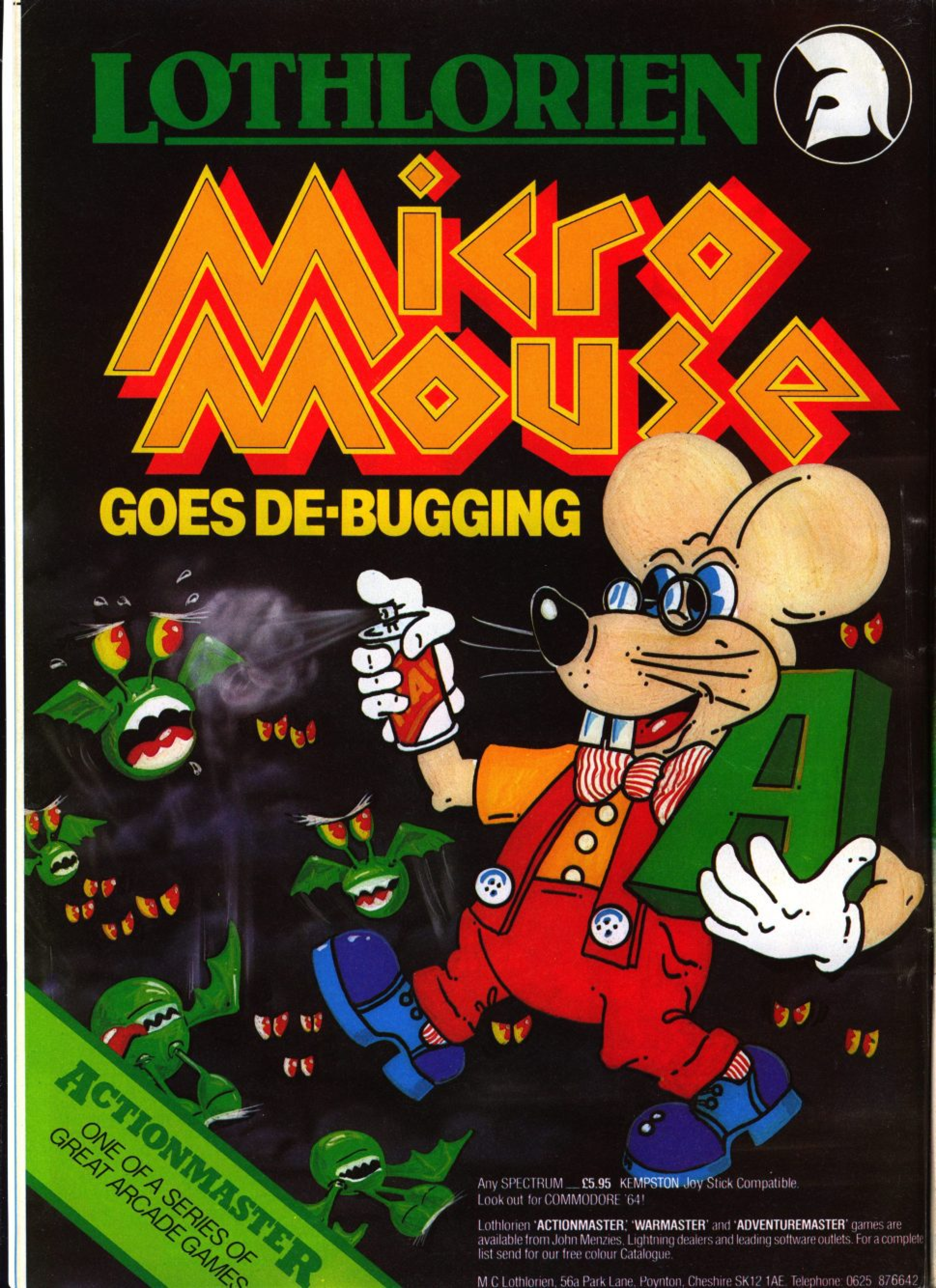
	BBC	ELECTRON	DRAGON	SPECTRUM
CHUCKIE EGG	✓	✓	✓	✓
CYLON ATTACK	✓	✓		
JUNGLE FEVER				✓
PHARAOHS TOMB	✓	✓		✓

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	BBC-B	£6.95	☐
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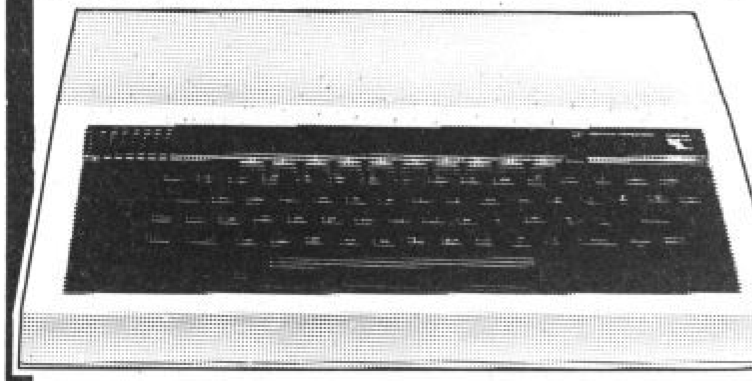


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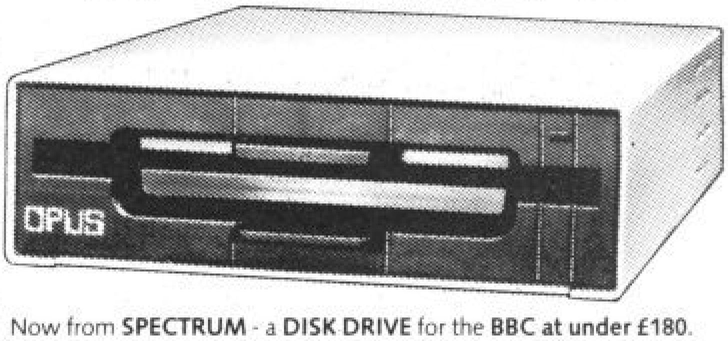
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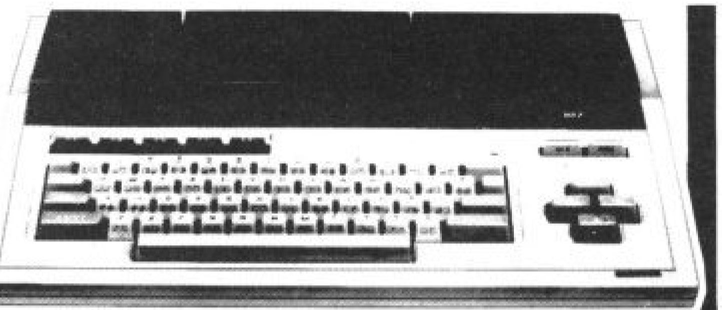
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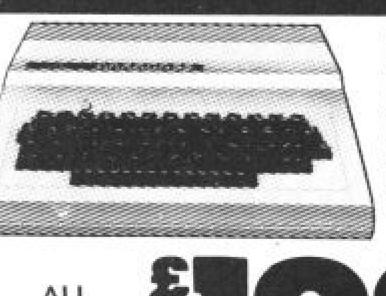
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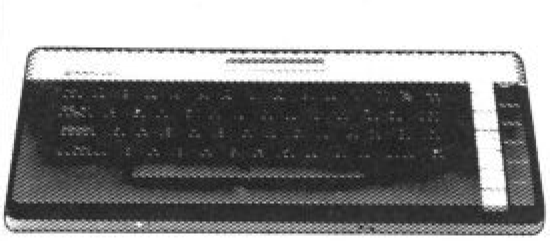
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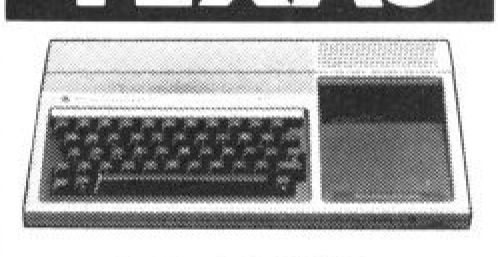


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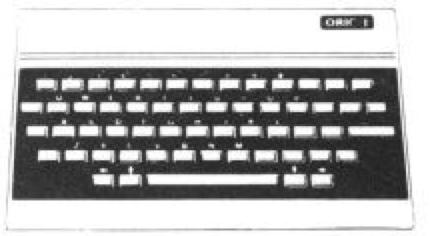
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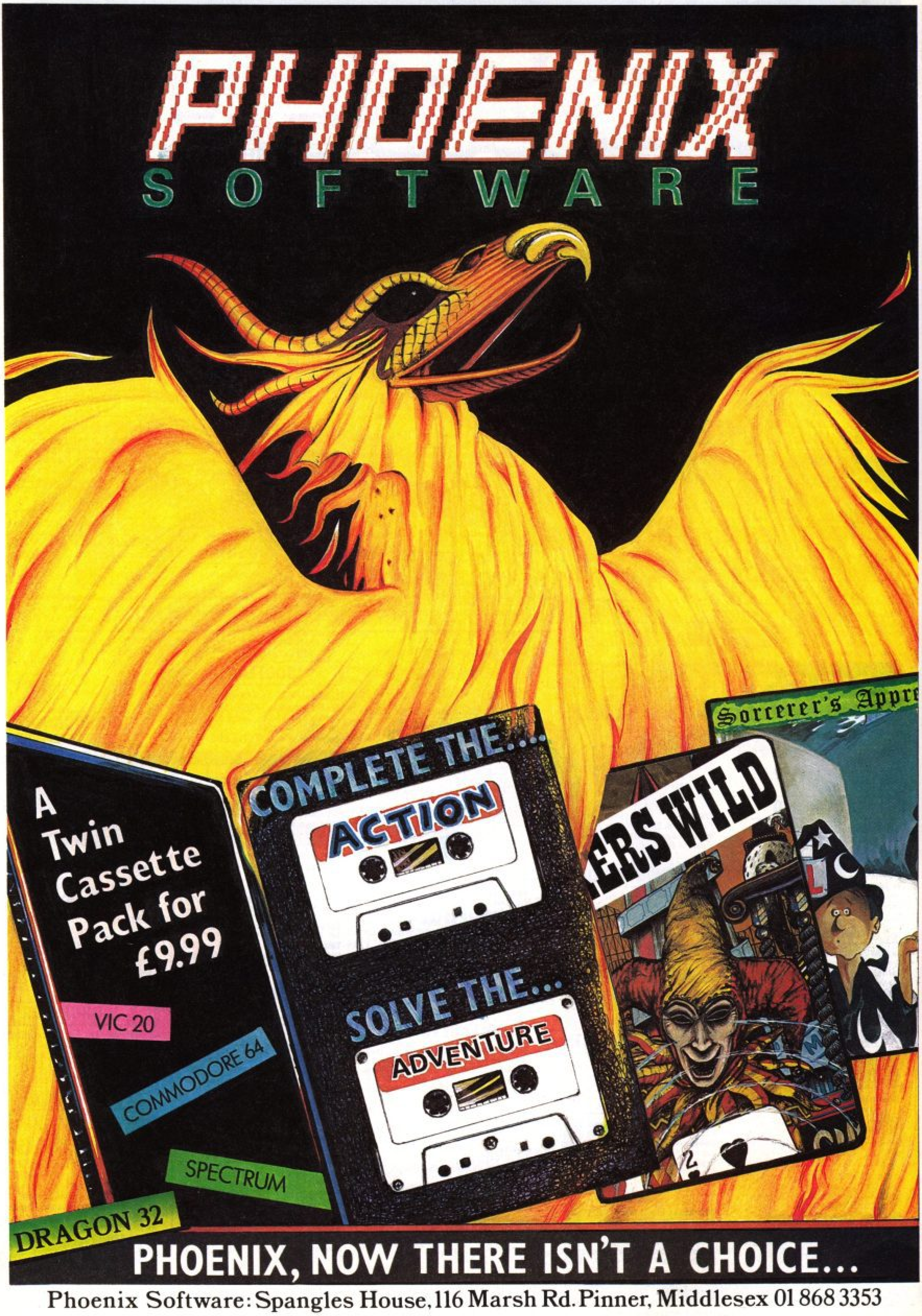
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You can all stop holding your breath now! The moment you've all been waiting for has arrived. Yes, we're ready to announce the winners of our *Computer and Video Games* 1983 Golden Joystick Awards.

These are the awards that we hope will become a symbol of excellence in the software industry — a measure of a good software company and good products.

We know that many software houses work hard producing top quality software and provide good after sales service to their customers.

This is what *Computer and Video Games* hopes to reward by asking you, our readers, to vote for your top game and favourite software house — among other categories!

Since we first announced our Golden Joystick Awards several other award schemes have sprung up — but accept no substitutes, *C&VG*'s joysticks truly reflect popular support for a game or software house because YOU have chosen the winners.

Throughout the year the *C&VG* office has been flooded with nominations for our various Golden Joystick Awards. A large variety of personal tastes and personal preferences came to light as we analysed the results — proving that one person's favourite game was another person's bowl of cold porridge!

Literally hundreds of games for all the popular micros were nominated. But despite the number of home computers on the market — and the amount of software around — all our award winners were clearly head and shoulders above their competitors.

All the Golden Joystick Awards were presented at a special dinner held in London. Representatives from all the top software houses were there to see Radio One DJ and computer-buff Dave Lee Travis present the Golden Sticks. We'll have a full report on the celebrations and the names of the winners in the next issue of *Computer and Video Games.*

Don't forget — if you missed your chance to vote in 1983 why not get in first for our 1984 Golden Joystick Awards? Make sure you have a say in the awards next year by filling in the coupon we'll print in our next issue.

We're also keeping the names of our winners secret until next month too — but all will be revealed in our March issue. Unless you are one of the lucky people with an invitation to our grand awards dinner that is.

Remember we are also taking this opportunity to launch our search for the software stars of 1984. Competition is bound to be even tougher this year with more and more great games on the market for the new generation of home computers — so we hope you'll help us make sure that the right people get our awards.

We pride ourselves on being the top reader friendly magazine — so that's why we let YOU, our readers, select the winners. And this is why we feel that the *C&VG* Golden Joystick Awards are the only true reflection of what's best in the British software industry. Simply because YOU, the games player, choose the winners! And who can know better what makes a good game?

Meanwhile, thanks for joining in the voting for our 1983 awards — and if you think we've missed out a category for 1984 why don't you drop us a line — we're always open to suggestions!

There are a few surprises in the award line-up — but we're keeping up the mystery until next issue! So don't forget to rush out and get your copy of *C&VG* on February 16th.


ORIC Software
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ultima ZONE
A 100% machine code space trilogy—shoot the Walkons, avoid the bouncing Brunes, battle your way through the satellite zone. Requires 48k Oric.
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Our software is available from all Oric dealers and most good software suppliers. In case of difficulty please contact us on Teversham (02205) 2261 or write to us at:
TANSOFT
Unit 1 & 2, Techno Park, Newmarket Road, Cambridge

TERRAHAWKS WINNERS!

Flaming Thunderbolts! When we announced our Terrahawks contest we never realised we'd start an invasion of letters and postcards which almost swamped the *C&VG* offices!

We had to call in Tiger Ninestien, Kate Kestrel, Zero and the rest of the Terrahawks team to help us get through the mounds of mail.

They managed to come up with two winners out of the pile and very soon Miss C. V. Gibson of Lancashire and Donald Glose from London will be the lucky owners of a Philips G7000 video games centre complete with Terrahawks cartridge! Your prizes are on their way.

POT THE BLACK

No sooner had we cleared the giant pile of Terrahawks mail another huge flood of competition entries swamped the office — this time it was Pot the Black which caused all the excitement!

We asked you to help Freddy Frinkle, the man with the Golden Cue, clinch the world snooker championship by solving an a-maze-ing snooker puzzle.

And hundreds of you took us at our word. After we called in a JCB earthmover to help us get through the mail, we finally managed to pick our 25 winners of Snooker games tapes, autographed by Snooker star Steve Davis and produced by new software house Visions.

We asked you to solve a maze and also if there could ever be a "break" of 162 in a game of snooker. And the answer is yes.

Here's how it works. Your opponent gives you a 159 start. You break off with a foul shot which gives your opponent four points, but leaves him snookered. He nominates a colour for red, pots that for 1 and black for 7 then scores 147 — the normal maximum break in snooker. He then wins the toss, pots the re-spotted black making a total "break" of 162. Simple when you know how!

SPECTRUM
John Chalmers, Birmingham. D. J. Hawkes, Wednesbury, W. Midlands. Justin Williams, Bowdon, Cheshire. Richard Burdon, Litchfield, Staffs. David Booth, Sheffield.

BBC B
John Abbott, Cookridge, Leeds. B. Johns, Southampton. J. Walker, Ramsgate. K. Wolstenholme, Manchester. Simon Campbell, Harrow.

COMMODORE 64
R. Lakhani, Tooting, London. Craig Pope, Hinckley, Leics. T. A. Scott, Cheltenham, Glos. Andrew Forrest, Hyndburn, Lancs. D. M. Allan, Otford, Kent.

ELECTRON
Andrew Shaw, Halifax, W. Yorks. Adam Ruddle, Bretton, Peterborough. Thomas Frawley, Coventry, W. Midlands. H. Borroughs, Wokingham, Berks. Philip Parrick, Greenock, Scotland.

VIC 20
Simon Carter, Rugby, Warks. Scott Walsh, Batley, W. Yorks. R. A. J. Jabber, Wirral, Cheshire. J. M. Seddon, Bolton. Nicholas Sharp, Penrith, Cumbria.

LEGGIT FOR MORE LEGGITS!

What's happened to all you eager Atari owners in the Portsmouth and Southampton areas?

We've still got some free Leggit tapes to give away, courtesy of Imagine Software and, to give everyone a fair chance — we've decided to go nationwide and offer the tapes to all of you!

So, calling all owners of the Atari 400/800 and 600XL, fill in the coupon below and rush it back to us — it's first come, first served — and the first ones into the *C&VG* office will be the lucky winners.

Send in your coupon, marked Leggit, to *Computer & Video Games*, 8 Herbal Hill, London, EC1R 5EJ.

Name ....

Address ....

....

....

Would the winners of the Atari/Dixons competition, featured in the June issue of *C&VG*, please get in touch with Clare Edgeley on 01-278 6556?

There are five winners in Trevor Truran's Ostentatious Pyrotechnics competition featured in the November issue of *C&VG*. All five winners have been announced in the January 84 issue — would they please get in touch with Clare on the same telephone number?

HANDS ACROSS THE WATER . . .

You've probably noticed from our Mailbag pages that *Computer and Video Games* refreshes the parts of the world that other computer magazines just can't reach. And recently a few of our overseas readers have been asking for a competition which runs for a bit longer than just a month to give them a chance to enter.

Many of our overseas readers don't get their issue of *C&VG* until well after the rest of you — simply because of the vast distances involved. So we've decided to run a competition just for them.

OK overseas *C&VG* fans here's what we want you to do. Send us a good games program — that's all. We know there must be some great games writers lurking in the far flung corners of the world — and we want to find you! Make the game as original as possible — that's our usual plea to programmers — but we're always interested in a top quality conversion of an arcade favourite or computer game.

We've got three Sinclair Spectrum computers up for grabs, plus some software from *C&VG*'s vaults thrown in, for the top three programs selected by our team of reviewers. Runners-up will receive *Computer and Video Games* Year Books and The Champ t-shirts.

The winning programs will be published in *C&VG* and you could find youself receiving an extra £25 if we vote your program a Game of the Month. All the programs we receive will be considered for publication. The closing date for the competition is July 16th 1984 — so you've got plenty of time to think about a program and get your entry off to us. Please fill in the coupon below and send it to *Computer and Video Games*, Overseas Readers Competition, Durrant House, Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5EJ.

Remember, this contest is only open to *C&VG* readers who live in Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong — anywhere *outside* the British Isles!

OVERSEAS READERS COMPETITION

Name ....

Address ....

....

Name of program .... Machine it runs on ....

Any add-ons, extended basic, expanders etc? ....

Any other information ....

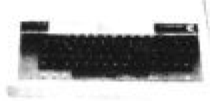
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Brrr! Deep in the confines of the frosty blue maze Pengy is pushing his way out of trouble. Pengy's frozen wasteland is a random maze constructed of blue ice blocks raided by the dreaded Sno-bees. The sno-bee's sting is deadly, but Pengy can retaliate by squashing them with the ice blocks that he pushes around. Pengy is based on one of this year's arcade successes, and this version captures all the action and addiction of the original. Packed full of features, super smooth graphics, flashing and bonus blocks, double score bonuses, dizzy bees, and hours of entertainment!
ANY SPECTRUM.



PENGY

TUTANKHAMUN

48K SPECTRUM ONLY—The treasures of TUTANKHAMUN are awesome—but so are the creatures that guard them. Explore the pharaoh's tomb which is a very large series of scrolling mazes separated by locked doors. You have a limited time to unlock the doors with the keys, and escape with the treasure. Luckily you are armed with lazers and smart bombs as you will have to face a horde of guardian cobras, spiders, skulls, monsters and mummies. TUTANKHAMUN is what you'd expect from Micromania—fast, furious arcade action-packed full of arcade features: 100% machine code, fast, smooth, hires arcade action; tomb is over 40 "screens" long, opening doors, keys, treasures, maps, level selection, sound effects and tunes.



CYBOTRON



The fastest, meanest robot shoot-out game ever. Based on the arcade game that made Defender look tame. CYBOTRON is impossible to beat—only speed and skill can save you from the chaotic robots. Packed full of features: Four types of robots, bombs, multi-directional plasma lazers, up to 50 robots on screen. 100% machine code, a game that will test your reactions to the limit. ANY SPECTRUM

keyboard only operation

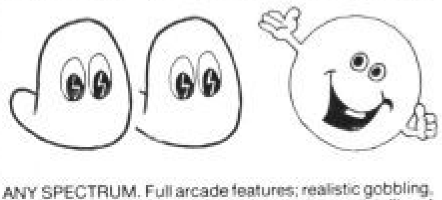
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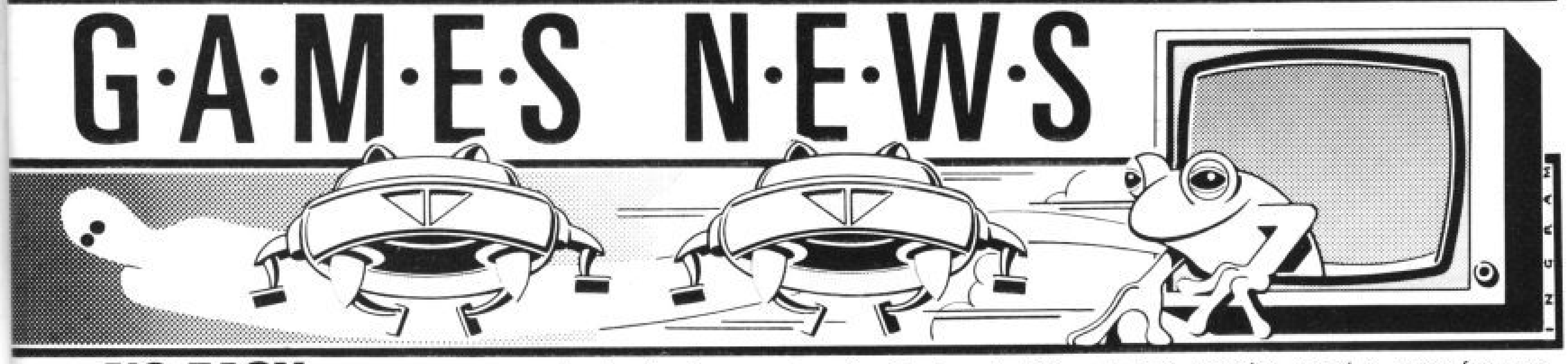
14 LOWER HILL ROAD, EPSOM, SURREY KT19 8LT

GHOST'S REVENGE



ANY SPECTRUM. Full arcade features; realistic gobbling, four coloured ghosts, dot and power pods, very intelligent chasing/running ghosts, eat blue ghosts for bonuses, tunnel, normal or INVISIBLE maze, 10 different selectable levels. 100% machine code action, excellent fast graphics, sound effects and tunes.

G·A·M·E·S N·E·W·S



NO EASY ESCAPE FROM SCARTHORPE!

URBAN UPSTART

Tired of fighting Orcs or exploring futuristic alien cities. Do you yearn for some 20th century adventure?

Urban Upstart is an adventure set in a present day inner city area called Scarthorpe. "A town so tough that even the dogs carry flick knives. The sort of town where rebuilding means a coat of paint and where people queue up to queue up for a job." Or so says the advertising blurb at any rate.

You play the part of a streetwise kid who's trying to escape the horrors of violence and deprivation in Scarthorpe, but escaping from the town is no easy task. Crazed muggers and corrupt policemen lurk around every street corner. Every location has a graphic display of the scene, ranging from a hospital to a building site.

If the secret police get too much, you can always save a game on tape and put your baseball bat down and have a rest.

The game runs on a 48K Spectrum and is available from Richard Shepherd Software at an asking price of £6.50.

GOOD NEWS FOR NEW WILLY FANS!

MINER WILLY

Miner Willy, the hero of Bug Byte's top selling Manic Miner, is shortly to be starring in a version of the game for the 64.

The game has been taken over by a new company set up by Matthew Smith — the author of the Spectrum version. His Software Projects company will now be marketing the game.

When the 64 version goes on sale, Software Projects will be announcing details of a competition, with a super prize for the first person to complete all the levels of the game.

Conversions from Spectrum to 64 are proving to be some of the most successful — and Software Projects are confident that the Commodore version of Miner Willy's adventures retains all the features of the Spectrum version.

Further good news for Willy fans is that the latest word coming out of Liverpool is that Manic Miner Part II is well into production.



SCOPE FOR ARCADE ACTION

SCOPE 64

If you like the sound of writing fast arcade games without the slightest knowledge of machine code, then read on.

Scope is a new, simple graphics programming language available for the Commodore 64. The game, its makers claim, is designed for writing fast arcade-style games without headaches.

SCOPE stands for Simple Compilation of Plain English, which gives a clue to why the programs run so fast. The program is in fact a very sophisticated compiler. The beauty of Scope is that it allows you to enter your game ideas in plain English words which it then miraculously compiles into machine code instructions.

The makers of the game stress that Scope was specifically designed as a graphics language to create games comparable with professionally produced software! Even the youngest of children can use it with ease.

Scope is produced by Interactive Software for the Commodore 64 and should retail at around £14.95.

BASIL AND THE BUBBLE MONSTERS

BUBBLE TROUBLE

Bubble Trouble will have you foaming at the mouth as you battle against mutant bath bubbles in a new game for the ZX Spectrum.

The game puts you in the striped shirt of Basil the Burglar, a small time crook who's taking his chances against the infamous bubble monsters guarding an ancient, treasure-filled tomb.

Basil has over fifty labyrinths to choose from, but he can only wander round a maze for one minute picking up valuable crowns, jewel-encrusted swords and precious stones before he has to leave the maze.

Time isn't the only thing against Burglar Basil — bouncing bubble monsters attack Basil from all sides. You must help Basil to avoid being drowned in the suds and collect as much of the tomb's treasure as you can.

The game has three different levels of difficulties, fifty different mazes, fine scrolling graphics and sound effects and is available from Arcade Software for the ZX Spectrum 48k for £5.50.

SINISTER PRECIOUS STONES

DOOMSDAY CASTLE

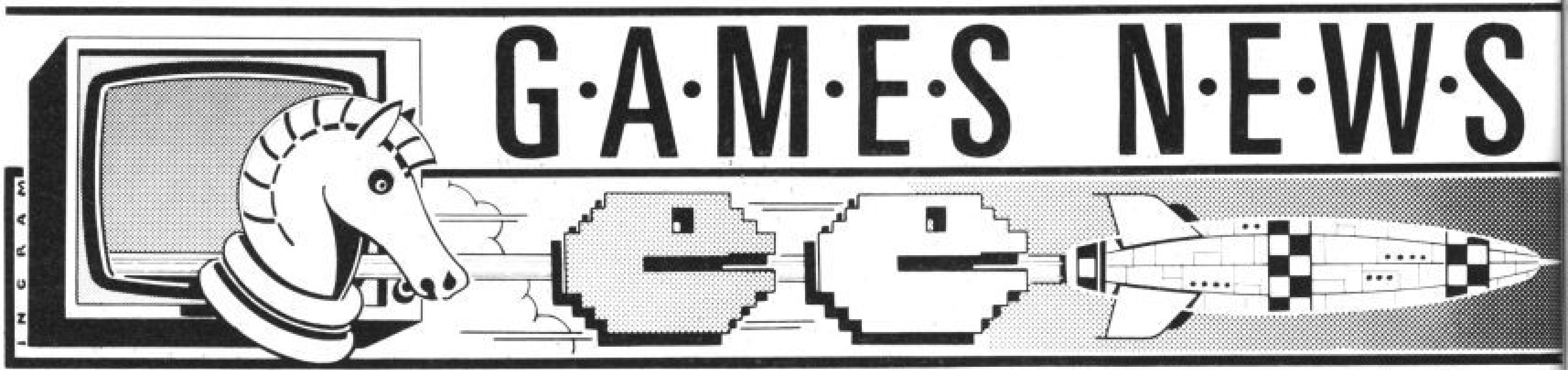
Saving the universe is never easy, especially when your adversaries include the phenomenally nasty Googly Bird. The Googly Bird is one of the many galactic ghouls you'll meet in Doomsday Castle, a new real time graphical adventure game for the ZX Spectrum.

The hero of the game is Ziggy — remember him from Fantasy's other smash hit game, the Pyramid?

Doomsday Castle is set in a universe ruled by Scarthax, the most evil being in the galaxy's history. Scarthax has searched the universe and collected the six ancient stones of life force. Now that he has brought them together under his control, he wields a power for evil far greater than the most horrifying nightmare could imagine.

The stones' awesome power is sending waves of corruption to every corner of the cosmos. Your task is to guide Ziggy through the Doomsday castle, attempt to wrest the stones away from Scarthax, and turn their power against their former master.

Doomsday Castle runs on a 48K Spectrum and is available from Fantasy Software costing £6.50.



DUNGEONS IN DANGER ON ORIC?

RUNELORD

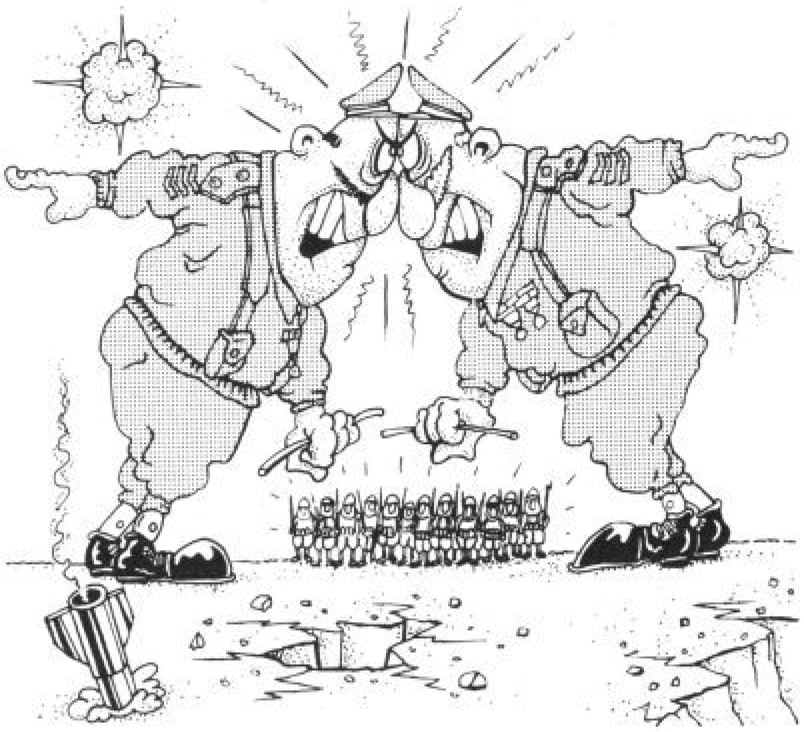
Hardened D&D addicts may look down their noses at 'upstart' computer adventure games. But a new game, Runelord, may shake their faith in D&D's supposed superiority.

Runelord is based on the role-playing fantasy game of the same name and it differs from most computer adventures in allowing you to develop certain characteristics of your chosen role. As in Dungeons and Dragons, each character has different quotas of wisdom, strength and dexterity. Runelord lets you create these for yourself, each one having its own particular strengths and weaknesses, good points and bad points. Furthermore, the game doesn't just consider aspects of the player's personality, but also how much equipment and experience each one has acquired during their 'lifetime'.

Once a role has been created — a warrior or magic user for instance — it can be saved on tape and then loaded into the game. This way a whole library of different roles can be made.

Runelord, like its board game namesake, is set in Celtic Britain. From here on, the usual Dungeons and Dragons' tactics of murder, arson and the odd bit of pillage take over. It sounds like good clean fun to us!

Runelord is available from Modular Concept Peripherals for the Oric 1 and costs £7.50.



Illustrations: Dorian Cross

HERE IS THE WEATHER FORECAST

KRIEGSPIEL

Weather forecasting becomes a vital part of military tactics for the commanders of tank warfare game Kriegspiel. An autumn offensive can suddenly grind to a halt as the landscape disappears below a blanket of snow or floods make waterways impassable.

Kriegspiel was first written by Ron Potkin on the Tandy TRS-80 in the late 70s and this early version even appeared in *Computer & Video Games.* Now Ron has utilised machine code and the Dragon's colours to bring new life to the game.

The action takes place over four screens of map with two opposing armies of heavy tank divisions, light tank divisions and mine laying infantry, battling for supremacy over a landscape of mountains, rivers, forest and field.

It's a game for two players or one player against the computer and can provide a simple 30 minute onslaught as both sides rush to take the opposing capital, or it can be as tactical as chess.

The landscape offers different advantages to infantry and tanks and a good commander can use the lie of the land to boost his attacks.

Kriegspiel, available from Beyond Software, costs £6.95 for the Dragon 32 and can be played by keyboard or joystick.

FIRST OF FELIX IN THE FACTORY

FELIX

All those who received an Electron for Christmas won't be frustrated by a lack of games software in the New Year.

Most home computers in the past have been plagued with a 'dead area' for a few months after their launch, before the independent software houses got their acts together and started producing games in bulk.

But it looks like Electron owners, problems won't be finding software for their computer, but choosing between the games that are about to flood the market.

Two companies who are leading the way in Electron software are Acornsoft, the software division of Acorn computers, and Program Power, a company that specialises in BBC software.

Program Power have released a range of ten games for the Electron including conversions of some of their most sucessful BBC games like the best selling Killer Gorilla.

The company haven't stuck to just converting old games but have some original titles up their sleeves.

Felix in the Factory is the first in a series of Felix adventures that Program Power are planning. The game places you in the position of the industrious Felix who is in charge of a run down factory for the weekend.

The rusty old generator in the basement of the factory keeps running out of fuel and you have to help Felix refill it with fuel before the entire factory grinds to a halt and production stops.

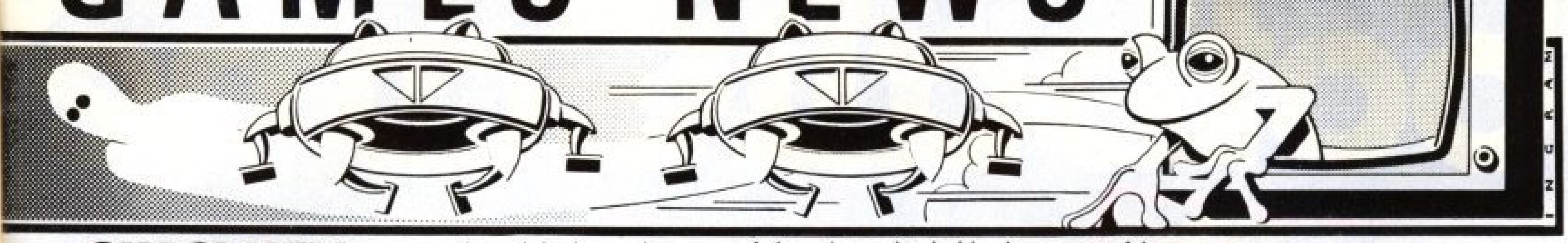
Felix must negotiate the rickety old ladders and conveyer belts to reach the generator, but his progress is slowed by gremlins who inhabit the building when the workers have gone home.

Felix's only hope of getting past them is to find a pitchfork and knock the nasty gremlins off the gangway and stop them putting a spanner in the works.

Another hazard is the giant rat that scurries across the packages in the factory's corners. The only way to get rid of the rabid rodent is to jump up and grab the bag of poison hanging from the ceiling. Felix in the Factory is available from Leeds-based Program Power for the new Electron and is priced £7.95.



G·A·M·E·S N·E·W·S



QUASI WILL GIVE YOU THE HUMP!

HUNCHBACK

It's a few centuries since the legendary Quasimodo first attempted to save the fair Esmaralda, and carry her off to the sanctuary of the Notre Dame's famous castle tower.

But the hunchback has swung right back into the thick of the action. Notre Dame's booming chimes will ring out again as the world's best known bell ringer hits your TV screen in the unlikely guise of a video game hero.

Quasimodo's task is the same as ever, to save the beautiful Esmaralda from the clutches of the evil Archbishop and his cronies.

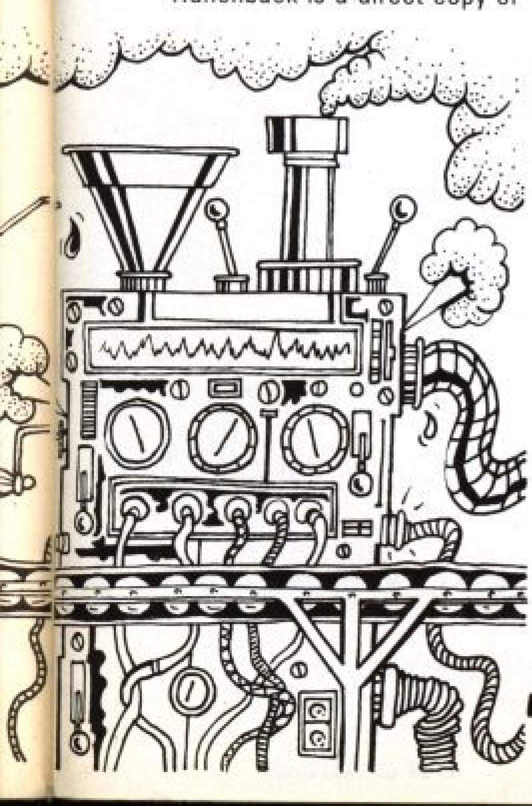
You must help the unfortunate cripple jump flaming barrels, swing across murky pits and avoid loyal knights ready to thrust a lance into Quasi's hunched shoulders.

The game is played against a scrolling background of the cathedral. Each level consists of 15 screenfuls of high speed action and is piled with more and more difficult obstacles for Quasimodo to overcome before he reaches his true love.

Hunchback is a direct copy of the original arcade game of the same name and has been produced with full co-operation of the game's original manufacturers Century Electronics. It's the only official version available on any home computer.

Hunchback is available for the Sinclair Spectrum, Dragon 32, Commodore 64 and Oric computers in late December from the Manchester company, Ocean Software for £6.90.





WHEN THE BALLOON GOES UP . . .

CRAZY BALLOON

Around the world in 64k? Crazy Balloon certainly seems to make it possible on the Commodore 64.

Crazy Balloon takes you back to the age of romantic adventure where the sky's your limit and the far off horizon is your destination.

The game places you in the shoes of Nathan Wigglesworth, an eccentric explorer whose favourite hobby is a spot of hot air ballooning. He has decided to go on a marathon flight to test out the brand new balloon he has just acquired

Like all great heroes Nathan Wigglesworth would never think of embarking on a trip of a lifetime without the help of a life long pal T. C. Barton.

Like Nathan, T.C. enjoys a great adventure and is quickly ready to take off with his old pal.

As Nathan and T.C. start their sojourn, the weather report is good but many obstacles lie in the way of the chums' expedition. You must help them manoeuvre the balloon over churches and skyscrapers.

Twenty-six dangerous flight levels have to be completed before the two can claim the title of the World's Greatest Aeronauts.

Crazy Balloon is available for the Commodore 64 and is joystick compatible. The game is produced by the newly formed company Software Projects and costs £7.95.

JOIN THE CLUB AND WIN A BADGE

RIVER RAID

America's top independent video game manufacturer, Activision, have just released versions of two of their most successful games for the Atari 400/800.

River Raid is a super fast, all action, scrolling shoot-'em-up. You are flying a mission up river to destroy all enemy shipping and bridges in hostile terrain.

Activision will reward anyone who can score a million points with a River Raiders Club badge.

Also converted for the Atari home computers is the hit VCS game Kaboom. This challenges you to catch all the bombs being hurled by the mad bomber before they hit the ground and explode.

The games are in the shops now at £29.95.

MERCENARY SAVES THE GALAXY!

NEOCLYPS

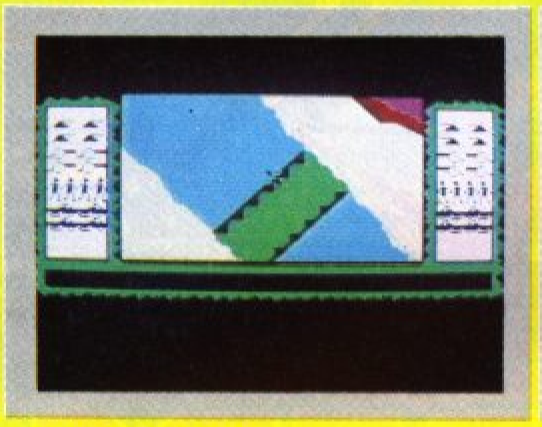
The galaxy is facing the most dire crisis in its history. Neoclyps, a remote planet and a member of the Colonial Federation has been invaded. As the universe's foremost galactic mercenary, you must liberate the inhabitants of Neoclyps from the alien dictators.

The invaders have set up a defence system of radar towers to detect any ships entering the planet's atmosphere. Your ship has been designed to withstand 12 collisions with the towers or with aggressive alien guards.

The game is written in a 100% machine code and includes a joystick option.

Neoclyps is available from Coventry-based PSS for the Commodore 64 and costs £7.95.

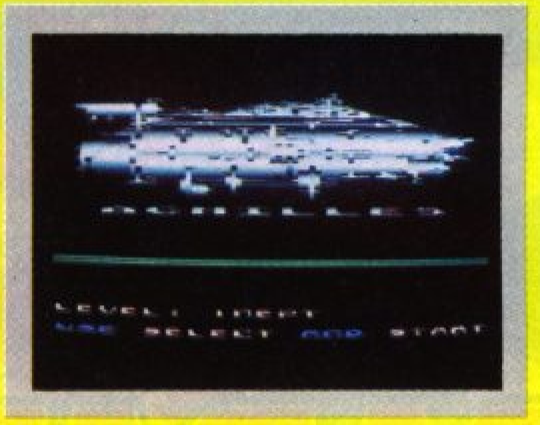




STONKERS



SHAMUS



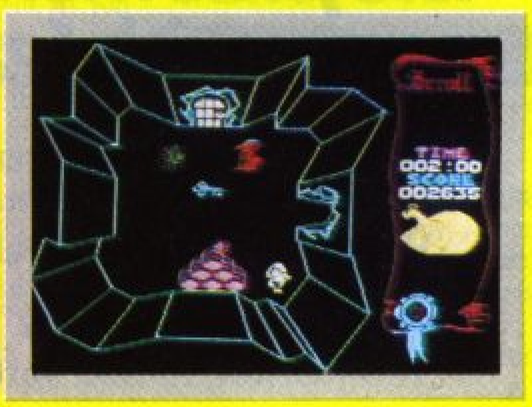
S.S. ACHILLES



ATIC ATAC



JET PAC



ATIC ATAC

Our *Game of the Month* this issue is Atic Atac the latest game from Ultimate, which is rapidly gaining cult status among games players everywhere. Read our view of this interesting adventure style challenge on page 31. Another of Ultimate's best games was Jet Pac — find out if that winning formula has survived the transfer from Spectrum to Vic-20 on page 29. Do you like war games or strategy games? Then turn to page 32 where you'll find our review of Stonkers, a tank game with a difference. We also look at the latest offering from new software company, Beyond. It's a maze style adventure for the Atari with some stunning opening graphics. But what about the game? Find out on page 31. Commodore 64 owners can check out Shamus — the game with the private eye theme — on page 32. And that's just for openers! Turn the page for a few more surprises.



They will make your computer go crazy with fear.

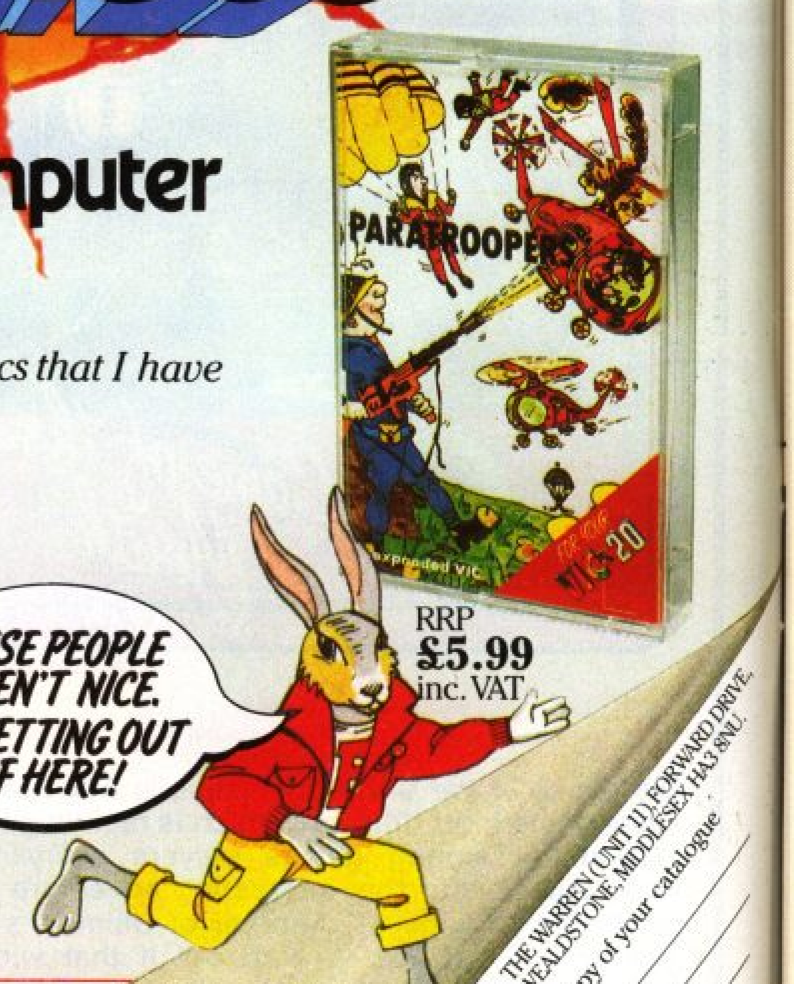
"One of the best examples of user-defined graphics that I have ever seen, along with excellent sound effects."
...Home Computing Weekly

"One of our best games yet."
...Terry Grant, Rabbit software director

"An obscene celebration of slaughter."
...Home Computing Weekly

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IMPRESSIVE ALL ACTION ADVENTURE

FOUR GATES

If you're after a good game for that Vic you got for Christmas then this is certainly worth a look.

Four Gates to Freedom is another in the Action/Adventure series from Phoenix software. The game comes on two separate cassettes with an arcade-type action game on one and an adventure on the other.

The catch is that you need a password to load the adventure, and you can only get this by reaching the highest level on the action game!

The action part of Four Gates is impressive. There is a wall at the top of the screen which is built in five-bar gate fashion. Above that is another wall, and beyond that are the four gates to freedom.

The idea is to break through both walls in Breakout style, avoiding aliens and also the falling debris from the wall.

Between the two walls lurks an extra meany, so the game gets harder after you've created a gap in the first barrier, as he escapes through the hole. He cannot be destroyed with your cannon.

The action in the game is very fast. If your trigger finger can handle it, you can fire quite a few times a second.

The graphics are not superb, but are adequate for the game.

Overall, it's great and very fast. But it may take some time, not to mention eye strain, to reach the highest level and get the password for the adventure.

Once you have the password — no I didn't finish the action but I've got friends at Phoenix — you can load the adventure.

When it has loaded and the password has been entered, the title screen welcomes you and challenges you to 'solve' the adventure! You'd think that they could check the spelling.

You start off outside a metal gate and your only exit is South. Problem is that you need a password to get through the exit, which I hadn't been given.

Not only do you get the loading code from the action game, you also get quite a few clues flashed on the screen during play. One of these, I assume, is the password to get through the gate.

If you'd like to try this for yourself, you'll need a Vic with a 16k Ram pack. Phoenix Software is based in Pinner — you'll pay £9.95 for the twin-pack, which can't be bad.

● Getting started	8
● Graphics	7
● Playability	8
● Value	10

PARALYSED BY PEPPER!

MR WIMPY

If you think that a game called Mr Wimpy must mean another version of Burgertime, then you're not wrong. But you're not exactly right, either.

The opening screen is original and quite good, but the remaining frames are just another version of Burgertime.

The first task in the game involves moving the ingredients from one side of the screen to another. You have to collect a tray and gather the cheese, ham and bun while avoiding Waldo the burger thief, and a group of flying manhole covers. No, I don't get it either!

Once you've gathered all the bits and pieces you get to the other screen, which is a pretty accurate copy of the Burgertime theme. The chef is replaced by Mr Wimpy, the logo used in their advertising. You are pursued by an egg, spoon and a sausage and you still have your supply of pepper.

The original Burgertime was written by Data East and was licensed for home use by Mattel, who produced a cartridge for the Intellivision.

The object is to build up the burgers at the bottom of the screen by walking over the ingredients so that they fall down a level.

If you pick up the ice cream or the cup of coffee then you get extra shakes of pepper, which is used to paralyse an enemy temporarily.

Burgertime is the same game, whatever you call it. But this is probably the best version around for the Spectrum.

It runs on a 48k machine and is available from Ocean Software for £5.90. It's a shame that they couldn't call it by its real name.

● Getting started	8
● Graphics	8
● Value	8
● Playability	7

CRACK SHOT CLONES!

CYBERTRON

Searching a derelict castle for treasures is brought up-to-date with this program.

Before entering each level of the castle, you are told which treasures you must look for and you then wander round the 16 rooms in search of them. As you pass over the treasure, it will appear at the bottom of the screen to remind you that it has been found.

Once you have all the loot, you then have to find the room with the safe in it. Touching the safe will lock away all the treasure and you are then moved up to the next level.

Obviously in such a game there will be enemies after your blood. On level one, says the inlay card, your only adversaries are the Spinners. Personally, I can't see what's wrong with them. (Did you see their Christmas show?) On higher levels, you are also pestered by Clones and Cyber droids. These have more person-seeking intelligence and can also fire pretty fast!

Control is via the keyboard or joystick, but the keys were not laid out too well. A and Z move up and down while "," and "." move left and right. The "M" key is used to fire, which I found to be too close to left and right. A joystick would have solved this problem. Furthermore, the break and escape keys are not disabled, as I managed to crash the program by pressing them.

Trying to re-run the program I typed OLD. I was amazed to find that my job was then made unnecessary, as the program reviewed itself. Up came the words "Bad Program"! To be fair, though, the game is quite well written. I enjoyed playing it, but I don't think that I'd come back to it too often.

Cybertron Mission runs on a BBC B and comes from Program Power. It'll cost you £7.95.

● Getting Started	8
● Graphics	8
● Value	7
● Playability	7

VICTORY FOR VIC VERSION

JETPAC

One of the best selling arcade game titles for the Spectrum has now been released for the Vic.

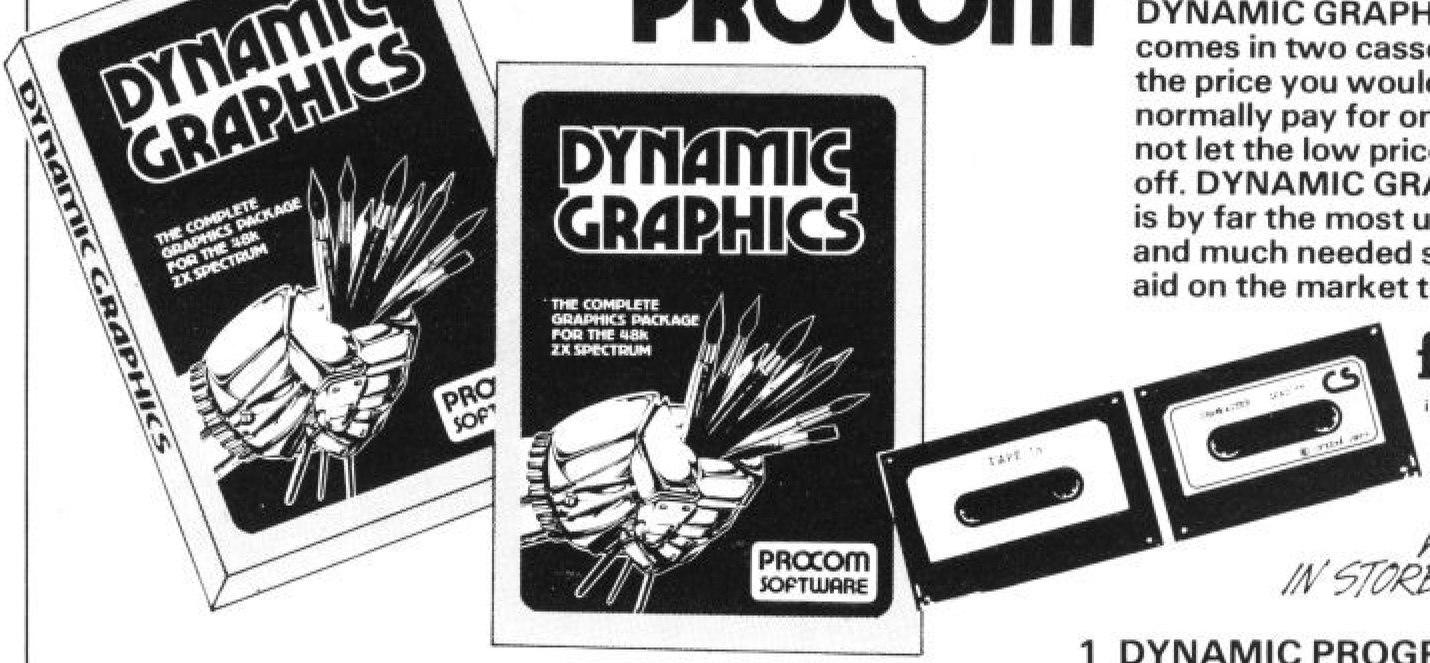
Jet Pac brought fame to Ultimate, a small company whose first release became an instant success and the Vic version is just as good.

As the person in charge of the Acme interstellar transport company, your job is to assemble your rocket and then to load enough fuel to let it take off. On reaching the next planet, you must fill up again. After four screens, you must rebuild the rocket.

The Spectrum version had 16 screens before they started to repeat but, the Vic game has just eight. Because Ultimate wants everyone to have an equal chance at finishing the game, the

continued on page 31

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CVG284



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Vic one runs slightly faster than the ZX.

The Vic will accept standard Atari-type joysticks, and these can be used in the game, although the keyboard can be used instead. What's more, the superb graphics of the Spectrum version have been captured in the same detail on the Commodore machine and the screen is one of the best that I have seen — all in 8K, too.

One talked-about problem from the Spectrum was the so-called bug in screen four. This, says Ultimate, was deliberate to allow poor players to achieve a high score. Anyway, that problem doesn't arise now, as that screen was one of those which was removed for the Vic. So it seems that Ultimate thinks Spectrum owners are more likely to be poor players than Vic owners!

A great game for one or two players, and well worth £5.50.

● Getting started	9
● Graphics	9
● Value	9
● Playability	9

FIGHTING FATAL FUNGUS

SS ACHILLES

You'll have to race against time to save your planet's most valued artifacts from the doomed star cruiser SS Achilles. The SS Achilles has been attacked by a strange space fungus which is slowly eating its way through the ship's maze of corridors.

The alien intruder is indestructible and your only hope of saving your culture's most treasured relics is to slow its progress through the ship, to give you enough time to escape through the shuttle craft with your cargo to earth.

The game starts by showing a very impressive graphic display of SS Achilles under which the game prompts the player to choose one of five difficulty levels, ranging from inept to expert.

You are placed inside an android protection suit to help you survive the harsh environmental conditions in the ship. Moving the droid into the walls or any grey object damages the robot's integrity level, shown at the bottom of the screen, together with the droid's remaining power supply. The level of the droid's integrity becomes more and more important as the game progresses and a lot of skill is needed to move the robot around the ship without hitting the walls or running into the fungus.

The growth of the fungus can be viewed by stepping into one of the tele-screens scattered around Achilles. This prints up a map of the ship's interior, showing the areas inhabited by the alien in orange.

To complete the game, you must pick up all the objects lying around the ship and deposit them in the shuttles loading bay. There are four different types, but the droid can only carry one particular object at a time. If and when you've collected all the objects, you can abandon the ship in the escape shuttle.

SS Achilles is a very addictive and challenging game. The graphics are good and the animation is amongst the best I have seen on the Atari. My only criticism of SS Achilles is that the game is only available on disc.

SS Achilles is available from Beyond Software for the Atari 400/800 and costs £19.95.

● Getting Started	8
● Graphics	8
● Value	6
● Playability	8

ASTRAL PLAIN ACTION!

DEFENSE FORCE

It's all action on the Oric as you career through space with lasers blazing in an attempt to save the humans from an alien invasion.

Attack! The humans are being captured! A Vultura rapidly descends on its prey with the aim of carrying him off into space. Making a rapid about-turn, you fly back in the opposite direction and blast the alien to the four corners of the galaxy. Luckily the humanoid is unharmed and falls gently back to earth.

Shoot-em-up fans will love Defense Force — with only a few variations, it's a faithful reproduction of the fast-moving, action-packed arcade hit Defender.

The aim of the game is to get through 20 waves of aliens and prevent the humans from being kidnapped. With up to 16 different video nasties on your tail, life becomes pretty hectic and you'll find that being able to fly both backwards and forwards a useful addition to the game.

Once all the humans have been captured, you enter the Astral Plain and beset with vicious nasties, your only chance of survival is to fight it out. Graphically very impressive, the Astral Plain gives the impression of flying into the depths of space away from the TV.

With the aid of a Star Map, it's possible to spot the swarms of aliens approaching before they've appeared on screen — so be prepared for waves of Assassins, Quantums and the dreaded Cybotroids if you don't want to lose a life. However if the pace becomes too much, a force field can be erected which will remain operational for six seconds — enough time to fly out of trouble!

There is an on/off sound function which I found especially useful — for although the sound effects are great, they are really noisy and had me clapping my hands to my ears in horror. Thankfully it's possible to play a silent game with just as much fun. A beginners' option is also available for the absolute learner, but this soon becomes boring.

With its excellent graphics, Defense Force will bring hours of fun to the lives of trigger-happy arcade fans who want a fast game for their Oric.

Defense Force is available from Cambridge-based Tansoft and costs £7.95.

● Getting Started	7
● Graphics	8
● Value	8
● Playability	9

YOU'LL BE HAUNTED BY ATIC!

ATIC ATAC

Abandoned in the eerie, haunted castle you can only escape by finding the Golden Key.

The castle consists of a large number of rooms, each of which has between one and three doors. As you walk across a room and through a door, the screen clears and the new location is drawn. The program runs very fast and there is no delay while the redrawing takes place.

The quality of the graphics in this game is the best I've seen from a Spectrum. Ultimate has dispensed with some of the movement and sound routines which were shared by Jet Pac and Cookie, and have written some excellent replacements.

Movement is smooth, and user defined graphics are used to their limit to produce some amazing characters such as evil-looking witches complete with broomstick.

Control is via Kempston or AGF joysticks, or the four cursor keys. With four keys for direction, one to fire and one to pick up the objects, a joystick is really the only way to play.

As I said, the idea is to explore the rooms, collecting the objects and using them. For example, some doors may be locked and to open them you'll have to find the correct colour-coded key.

Scores are printed on a beautifully designed "parchment" scroll which runs down

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the right hand side of the screen. This shows the number of lives left, and also a large stuffed turkey! If you come into contact with any of the nasties, the turkey sheds some of its meat and gradually turns to a pile of bones. When all the meat's gone, you lose a life! Now that's novel.

Apart from the keyboard control, Atic Atac must rate as the best yet from Ultimate. It runs on a 48k Spectrum and is well worth the £5.50 which you'll have to pay.

● Getting started	9
● Graphics	10
● Value	9
● Playability	8

WARSHIPS OF GOR

ACHERON'S RAGE

If you're a fan of Asteroids then you'll probably like this version of the game for the Oric.

You've hyperspaced, says the cassette inlay, into a sector where scanners revealed no sentient life-forms. Suddenly . . . warships of the Gor are materialising all around you. In reality, though, it's an asteroids-type game.

The playing area consists of the whole screen, apart from a thin border and also a large shaded block in the middle. On the screen is your ship and a number of aliens, or Gor ships as Softek likes to call them. The idea is to destroy all of the Gor ships and then to move on to the next level. The block in the middle of the screen makes manoeuvring quite difficult, though.

There are three types of Gor ships. Some will try to ram you, some have the power to fire back, while others will lay mines. Running over one of these will result in your destruction.

There are four skill levels in the game. Even on level one I thought that the playing area was too small — there's just not enough room with all those aliens to manoeuvre your ship. You get three lives to start, and an extra one after clearing every six waves.

Control of the game is via the keyboard. There are five main controls — to rotate in two directions, fire, accelerate and brake — but you can't move and fire at the same time so a joystick option would be useful.

This is certainly not the best game that I've seen for the Oric, although the graphics are quite good in places. The Gor ships move very smoothly and flap their wings, but the player's ship rotates badly in large steps.

Sound effects are included, but are quite limited. There's one sound for firing and another for when the player's ship is destroyed. It's quite loud and there's no volume control, but you can turn it off completely if you want.

If you like this sort of game, then this is worth the money, but it's not one that I'd come back to very often. Acheron's Rage runs on a 48k Oric and costs £6.95.

● Getting Started	9
● Graphics	7
● Value	7
● Playability	6

BOUNCING POLICEMEN?

DAREDEVIL DENNIS

Dennis the Menace, the famous movie stuntman revs up his trials bike as he gets ready for the most difficult stunts of his short life.

Unfortunately for Daredevil Dennis, the film director won't tolerate failure, so if he fails more than three times at any stunt he's fired — which is probably just as well as poor old Dennis lands on his head each time he falls off and is probably suffering from severe brain damage!

There are six screens altogether. Dennis starts off by leaping houses and trees on the first screen and moves quickly onto water where he rides a wet-bike. The snow slopes are next — slightly more difficult as they are very slippery — with the remaining three featuring low-flying helicopters and gaps in the road. Your jumps have to be well timed if you want to save Dennis from going up in flames.

The first three screens are easily mastered on the first difficulty level, while the remaining five levels range from Experienced to Ace where you'll really have to struggle to keep Dennis on his bike. I had several nasty encounters with bouncing policemen and decided to stay on the novice level!

A lively tune is played which livens up the dreary few minutes while the game is loading and the graphics are very detailed and colourful. However, I felt the game lacked that elusive addictive quality which would make it a winner.

The game is controlled by the shift key which acts as a throttle, the return key which acts as the brake and the space bar which is used for jumping — very simplistic controls and a game better suited to the younger age groups.

Daredevil Dennis is available from London-based Visions for the BBC Model B at £7.95.

● Getting Started	8
● Graphics	6
● Value	4
● Playability	4

WAYS TO WIN THE WAR!

STONKERS

Golly, chaps. Spiffing game, what? These Imagine chappies have really got it right this time.

Yes, it's the latest release from Imagine. In one giant leap for a software house, Eugene and Co. have released a war-type strategy game but have kept those pretty arcade type graphics. Those graphics are, in fact, well designed. But I don't think they really live up to Imagine's claim that they are as much as is technically possible on the machine. For my money I prefer Ultimate. Whoops, sorry!

Anyway, chaps, this is a war strategy game. There are no fast moving meanies to zap; instead you have to move your tanks and cannons to clever positions and make sure that you are near enough to the supply ship to get some cargo when it unloads.

If all this sounds very vague and I seem to give the impression that I couldn't get in to the game very far, then you're right. The whole idea is pretty complicated and I actually spent the best part of a whole day studying the instructions in front of a Spectrum. For all my gallant efforts, I succeeded in drowning my entire regiment in the sea.

When opposing forces meet, whether by clever deployment or by accident, they will engage in combat. There's a predetermined hierarchy of which battalions are more powerful than others. Your forces will change colour if they're engaged in combat.

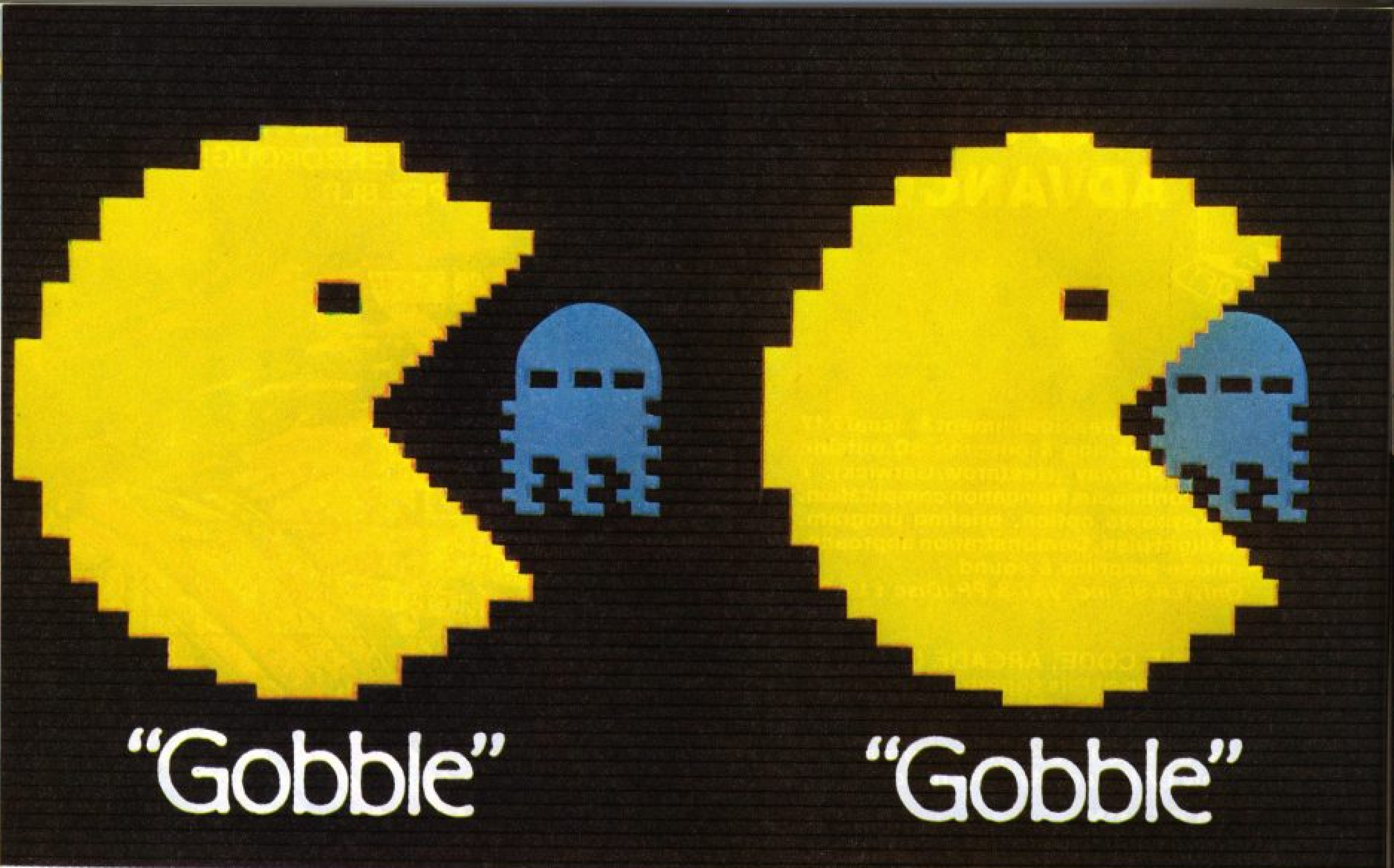
During play, the screen shows the playing area on a small scale. There's a 2-character wide cursor which you can move to any point and then expand that 2-character piece to fill the whole screen. It's really quite impressive. Anything which happens to be moving will do so whether you happen to be there watching or not.

The object is to destroy the enemy positions and to occupy their HQ. But I feel that this is going to take someone a long time. If you're the sort of person who likes to be able to get straight into a game once it's loaded, then this is not for you.

However, if you're fed up with zapping everything in sight from Space Invaders to Mutant Telephones and man-eating toilets then this will be good value.

Stonkers is from Imagine and runs on a 48K Spectrum. It costs £5.50

● Getting Started	8
● Graphics	9
● Value	8
● Playability	5



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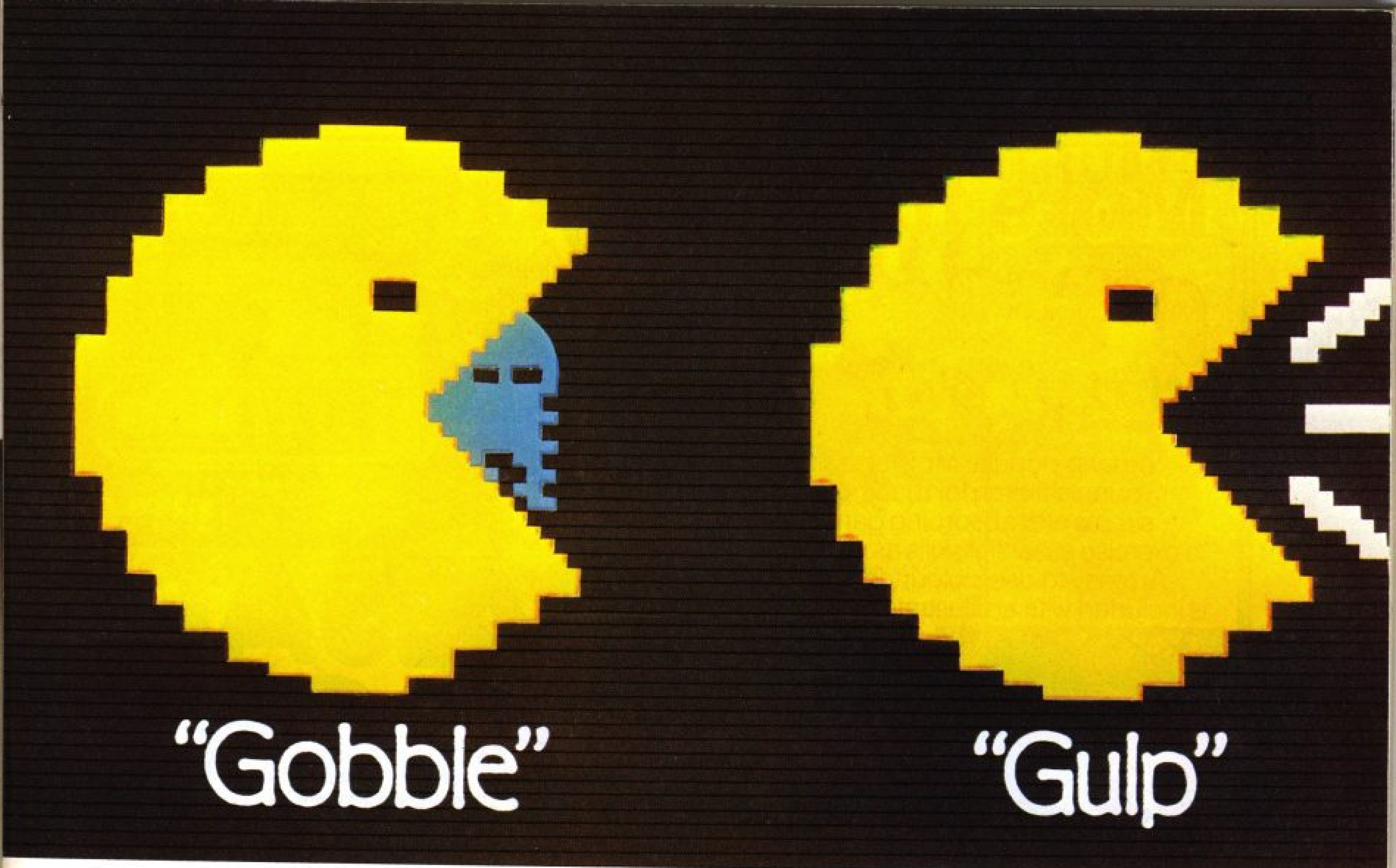
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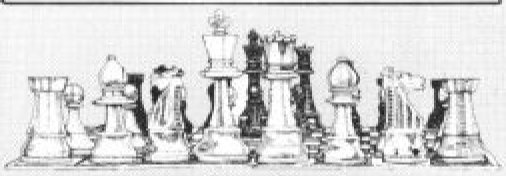
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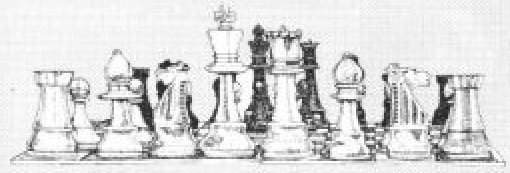
Thinking of buying a chess program for your micro? Don't know what to expect or which one to buy? Then read on . . . Whether you're a chess fanatic or you just know the rules, you will probably at some time want to set a chess program for your home computer. With the great number of programs now available, it may be a difficult decision to choose the best one for your micro. In this article Chess programmer Martin Bryant looks at the standard of play and the features you can expect from the best modern home computer chess programs.

COMPUTER CHE



Standard of play

The very best programs can now play at a fairly good club level, from around 1600 to 1800 ELO (125 to 150 BCF). The standard of play can vary greatly from game to game depending on the type of position encountered and the stage of the game. Modern programs also usually have a much fuller understanding of the more obscure rules of chess such as underpromotions, draws by repetition, draws by the fifty move rule and chess clocks.



Features

Here's what you should look for in a good chess program. The most recent programs are provided with many more features of a much higher quality than their older counterparts, such as:

● Move entry by a cursor positioning method. Why should people have to turn their thoughts into an algebraic form, just because its easier for the program to understand? The cursor method allows you to 'move' the piece on the board, more like a real chess game. The best programs can accept both methods.

● The ability to step backwards or forwards through the entire game. Older programs would allow you to take back only a couple of moves, but with new techniques the whole game record can be stored and scanned with small memory overhead.

● The oreintation of the board should be reversible. That is the board should be displayable with white or black at the bottom of the screen. This allows you to play black "up" the board, like a real chess game, instead of having to reverse your way of looking at it.

Several "modes" of play can add a great deal of flexibility to a program. The old fashioned eight "levels" can be vastly improved upon these days. Some of the sensible "modes" are:

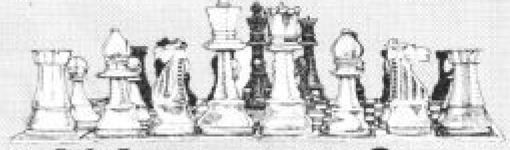
(i) "Tournament" mode: Full tournament parameters can be set up, to make the program play within any specified time limit. An easy to use version of the full mode is helpful as well, where you can just specify the average move time you wish the program to take. This can range from one second to 99 hours, effectively providing thousands of "levels". The program automatically adjusts its "lookahead", to play within the required time.

(ii) "All the moves" mode: Chess clocks are used, where you must play all the moves of the game within a specified game time. If you play too slowly, you lose on time! Club players often use this method in "five-minute" games where both players have five minutes each to play all their moves.

(iii) 'Problem" mode: The ability to solve chess problems of the type in many newspapers is good. Beware however of the programs which claim they can solve mates in five or more, but then take a week or so to do it! If the program averages more than a few seconds on any mate in two it is likely to be horribly slow on deeper mates.

(iv) "Losing" and "Equal" modes: Many players can't beat the programs on their lowest settings. These modes allow the program to quite deliberately try not to win! Instead it either tries to gradually lose or stay roughly level. These modes can be of enormous help to the beginner or very weak player. As the player improves, the program magically improves with him, always challenging him, but not totally smashing him so he just gives up.

The ability to quickly and easily set up different positions is essential. The program should also check that you don't try to play on with an illegal board position. For example, having P's on the first rank, more than one king for each side etc.



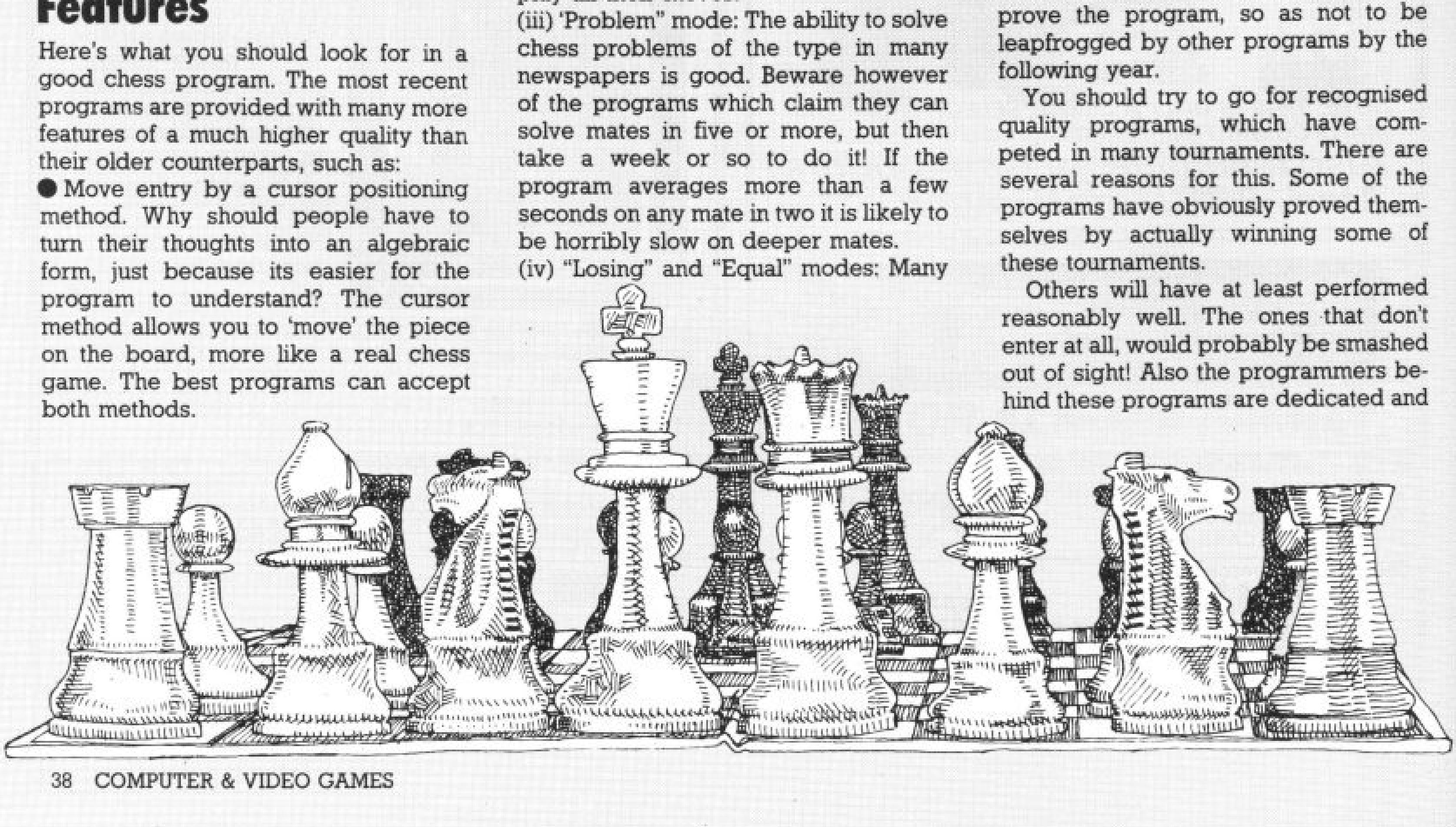
Which Program?

The best programs for playing strength are usually the most recently released. Any program which has been around for over a year without an update, is probably totally outdated as far as its playing strength goes. A year is a long time in computer chess, as can be seen from the results of programs which compete in recognised tournaments, such as the European Championships at the *PCW* show each year.

A chess programmer may achieve glory one year, but has to work very hard on new ideas/techniques to improve the program, so as not to be leapfrogged by other programs by the following year.

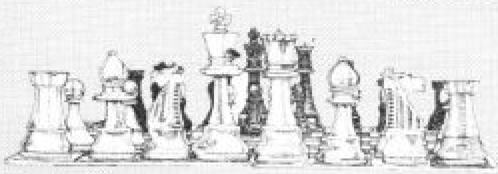
You should try to go for recognised quality programs, which have competed in many tournaments. There are several reasons for this. Some of the programs have obviously proved themselves by actually winning some of these tournaments.

Others will have at least performed reasonably well. The ones that don't enter at all, would probably be smashed out of sight! Also the programmers behind these programs are dedicated and



…QUE-MATES . . .

knowledgeable enough to really write a quality program, rather than just another software "rip-off" as are many chess programs. The same arguments really apply to the features as well. A "real" chess program will have most of the best features as a matter of course.



Reviews

I'll now take a brief look at two programs which are probably the best available. They are White-Knight Mark II for the BBC Micro and Cyrus I.S. Chess for the Spectrum.

Cyrus was originally written in 1981 by Richard Lang and won the European Championships in the same year. It has competed in several tournaments since, with varying success and has been adapted for several micros.

The Spectrum model is not the latest version of the program, but can still beat almost all other programs. It comes in 16k and 48k versions. The 48k version has more features and also uses an openings book. It contains a wide range of features, including set-up position, saving to tape, printer output and full game take-back. The bottom of the screen shows the various features available as single letter commands.

The display is clear and the programs cursor move entry easy to use. It allows user underpromotions, understands draws by the fifty move rule and some draws by repetition. It has eight levels and can solve problems up to three moves ahead.

White-Knight was originally written in 1977. Mark II won the home computer section of the European Championships in 1983. It is certainly the strongest home computer program available at the moment.

It runs on the BBC model B and like Cyrus, comes with several excellent features, including set up position, whole game takeback/replay, orientation, play-self, blindfold and even volume control.

When it computes its move, it displays the best line it has found so far in its search. This can be used to provide a "hint" move as well as an indication as to what "White-Knight has "seen". Again the display is very clear and the program easy to use. You can use cursor positioning move entry or algebraic notation.

The program can easily be set to play within any average move time you require of it, thus providing thousands of potential "levels". It can also solve mates up to five moves ahead. Its problem solving speed is phenomenal. It examines around 1,200 positions each second and when compared to the Program Power chess program was found to be around 200 (yes, two hundred) times as fast!

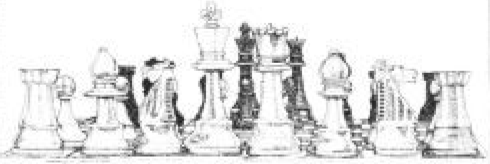
It was recently used in a study of several hundred chess problems and found that a dozen of the original problems were in fact in error!

In a series of sixteen test games between the two programs on various levels, White-Knight beat Cyrus I.S. Chess by twelve games to four.

For other micros there is a wide range from fairly good to appalling programs. Cyrus is also available on the Dragon. Not as good as the Spectrum version but still a good buy. White-Knight is soon to be released on the Electron.

The Atari cartridge I tried was horrible and at £25 has got to be one to miss. For the Commodore 64 comes the Grand-Master. It didn't offer many real features and I beat it twice with no real trouble and wasn't very impressed. At £15 I would also give it a a miss.

A new program called Collosus, which won second amateur prize at the European Championships is soon to be released on the CBM 64 and Atari micros. This program promises to be one of the best around. For the Apple, Sargon 2 has had its day, but Sargon 3 is now available.



COMPUTER CHESS COMPETITION

BBC Publishers are offering a super prize to the lucky winners of our Computer Class Competition — three presentation copies of White-Knight, autographed by the author.

All you have to do is answer the following questions about computer chess. So have a go at winning yourself one of the best chess programs around!

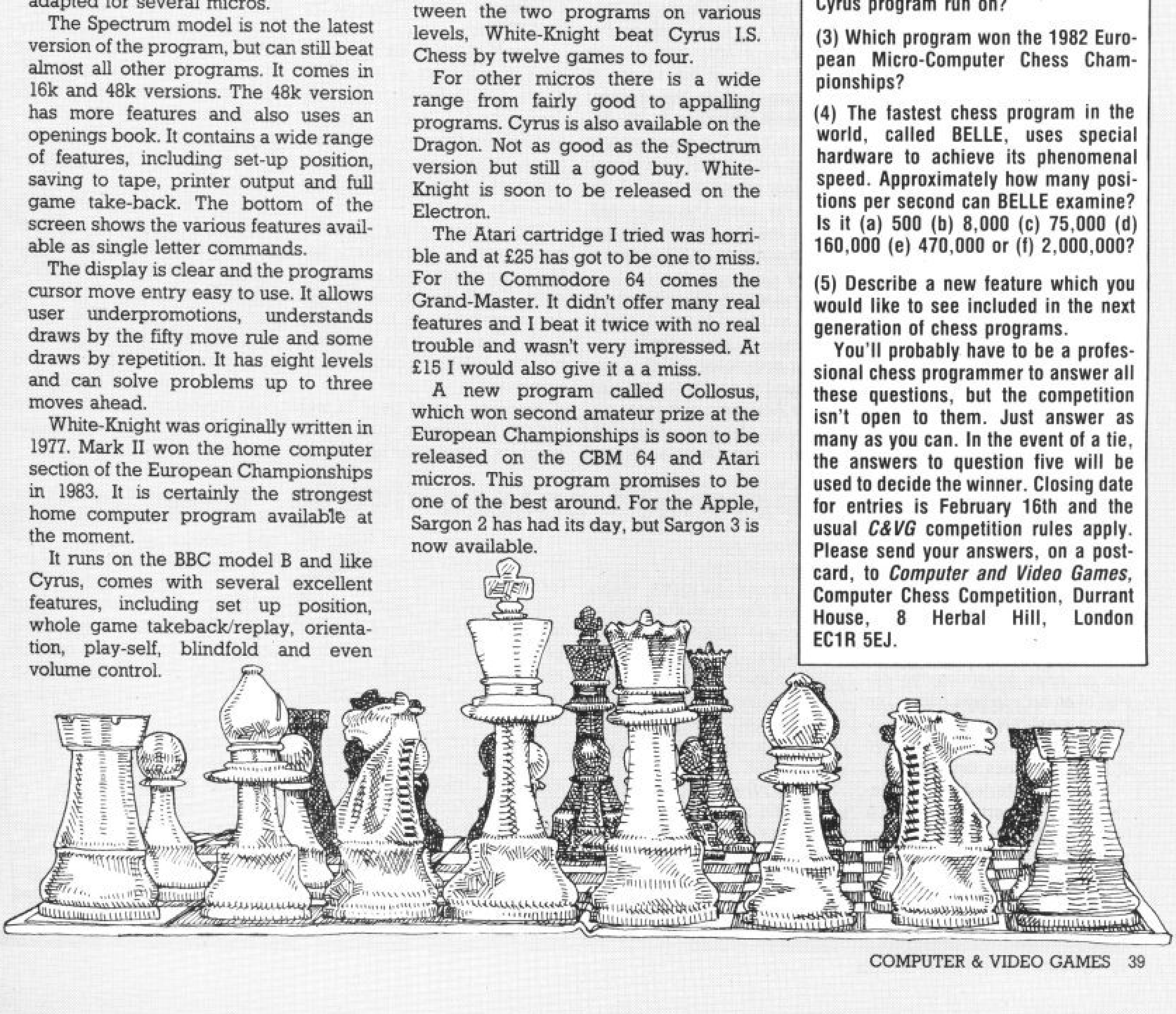
(1) What was the name of the computer chess program which won the first Computer World Chess Championships in 1974? Was it:
(a) CHAOS (b) KAISSA (c) CHESS 4.0 or (d) OSTRICH?
(2) What processor did the original Cyrus program run on?

(3) Which program won the 1982 European Micro-Computer Chess Championships?

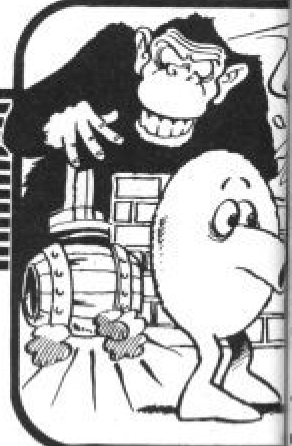
(4) The fastest chess program in the world, called BELLE, uses special hardware to achieve its phenomenal speed. Approximately how many positions per second can BELLE examine? Is it (a) 500 (b) 8,000 (c) 75,000 (d) 160,000 (e) 470,000 or (f) 2,000,000?

(5) Describe a new feature which you would like to see included in the next generation of chess programs.

You'll probably have to be a professional chess programmer to answer all these questions, but the competition isn't open to them. Just answer as many as you can. In the event of a tie, the answers to question five will be used to decide the winner. Closing date for entries is February 16th and the usual *C&VG* competition rules apply. Please send your answers, on a postcard, to *Computer and Video Games*, Computer Chess Competition, Durrant House, 8 Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5EJ.



VIDEO



MEET THE VIDEO GAME SUPERSTAR

David Crane, a 29 year-old, 6'5" giant is one of the leading lights behind Activision's success in the highly competitive video games industry.

Activision, which was formed about four years ago, owes its outstanding success to the programming prowess of games designers like David.

During a flying visit to the UK, David took time out from his busy schedule to let *Computer & Video Games* writer Clare Edgeley into the secrets of games programming and his own particular brand of success.

Activision, one of America's youngest video game success stories, first made its mark on the industry four years ago with games like Dragster and Fishing Derby. Since then there has been no holding them back and Activision have created a string of popular titles which have won them a place among the frontrunners in this highly competitive field.

I met David at one of London's top hotels, where he was happily tucking into a take-away lunch of some rather soggy looking hamburgers and chips. He explained this away by stating a preference for hamburgers rather than English food! Perhaps it made him feel a little less homesick!

David first became interested in video games as a teenager when he visited arcades to play Pinball, but he added: "I soon realised that my interests lay in electronics and computing" About eight years ago he started to program his own games in an attempt to forge a career in the industry.

Since then David has produced many games for Activision and has certainly made his mark.

One game which earned him instant recognition as a top performer was Pitfall, which was voted 1983's Best Game of the Year in the States. In fact you could say that Pitfall made David Crane a video-game superstar.

The secret of a good game should combine realistic graphics with instant playability, a level of addictiveness and make full use of the machine's capabilities.

"When designing a game, you've got two choices — sports games or arcade type games. Sports games are easier in a way to design in that there are set rules to work to, whereas there are no rules governing the design of an arcade type game. The format is entirely up to the designer." David described how two of his best games developed.

David first started writing Decathlon — a sports game which has recently been released — some time ago. The first event is the 100m dash so he started off by programming a little man to run from the left to the right of the screen, the screen then scrolls forwards showing the athlete still running to reach his goal.

Unfortunately, Decathlon originally had to be shelved, as David couldn't fit all ten events into the memory space available to him at that time.

Turning to the idea of an arcade game, he decided to start in exactly the same way as Decathlon — a little man running from one side of the screen to the other. And so the idea for Pitfall was conceived.

"I didn't have a preconceived idea of how Pitfall would turn out, I just added objects off the top of my head like pits, vines, ladders leading into the pits and the odd scorpion until I ran out of memory.

"Pitfall was a difficult game to design as I tried to add a level of complexity to every step."

After completing Pitfall, a way was found to double the program size for Activision cartridges and David was able to complete Decathlon — an Olympian feat of programming in which you've got to compete in screen versions of all ten events of the real life Decathlon.

Unlike other video games companies who employ a team of programmers to work on one game, Activision give each programmer sole responsibility for one game, from the initial concept of the idea through to the final product.

A team of five to six designers work in one room in an atmosphere which David finds very "supportive". In this creative atmosphere there is an "instant feedback and recognition in the quality of a game and a constant exchange of ideas."

The programming time for each game is somewhere between six months to a year. Typically, Pitfall took some 500-700 programming hours to complete over a period of six to seven months, while Decathlon was completed in just over a year.

However, games used to take longer to develop due to the graphics. "Originally we started off by plotting characters and objects in coloured squares on graph paper and then doing the conversions into machine code. If we weren't satisfied, we would have to return to the graph paper and start again."

This time-consuming exercise was solved by David who developed a gadget which enables the programmers to draw straight onto the screen at four times the real size. Once the programmer is satisfied with the finished product, it is automatically converted into machine code and stored in the memory. "It's approximately 80% faster using this method."

One of the passwords to the programmers' success are the key words: program size, execution time and storage memory. "When programming, you have to trade within these three constraints." For instance, if the programmer needs more memory, then either the program size or execution time will have to be cut down.

Activision have recently moved into the home computer market with River Raid and Kaboom for the Atari 400/800. I asked David about Activision's plans for the future. "Four years ago, our plan was to make a quality name in video games and once that name was established — to move with the industry. We are following a very well thought out plan."

David wasn't giving any secrets away and wouldn't say what was to follow River Raid and Kaboom, although I have been assured that more titles are to be announced shortly.

David tends to put in about four working hours a day at the office. "It's impossible to come in at say 9.30 am and expect ideas to flow for the next six to seven hours."

However, David's got all the necessary equipment at home and can work from there if a flash of inspiration hits him.

Pride in his work also shows in his personal life. David drives around in a car with customised number plates — you've guessed it — PITFALL!

EXPANDING COLECOVISION

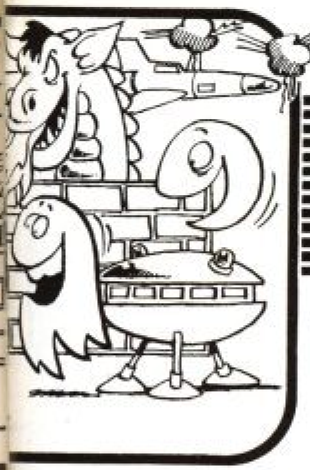
ColecoVision system owners will now have access to the biggest video games cartridge library available, thanks to the soon-to-be-released Coleco Expansion Module No. 1!

This plug-in module enables Coleco owners to use Atari 2600 cartridges with their system — opening up whole new vistas of video games playing.

Legal wrangles have prevented the module reaching the streets for some time — but it should be widely available by now and will cost around £59.00.

Once the Coleco owner has shelled out for the expander, he or she can use any of the large range of games produced by and for the Atari VCS system. The rather awkward Coleco controllers must still be used but, for games that need the Atari paddle controllers, Coleco owners will have to find someone with an Atari system!

The expander is good news for Atari owners who want to upgrade to a Coleco — but were afraid they'd have to junk all those expensive Atari cartridges. Combine the high-resolution Coleco cartridges with the module and you really have got a super system!

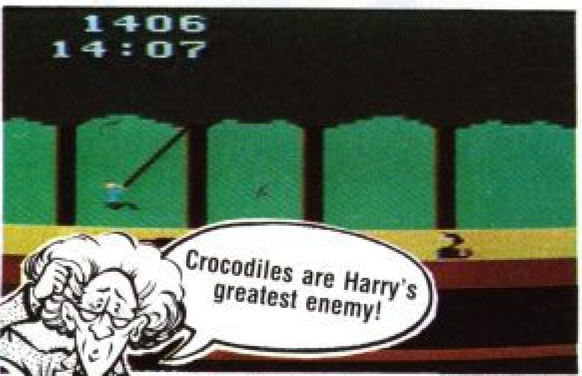


GAMING

THE VIDEO PROFESSOR GOES ON PITFALL SAFARI

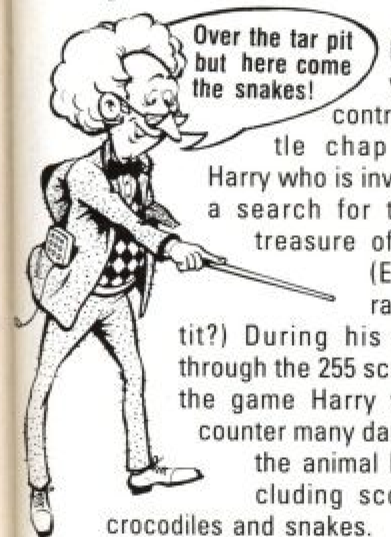
Welcome to the second of Professor Video's lectures, packed with useful hints, tips and strategies which help you beat the hot home video games. This time he's taking a look at the ever popular Pitfall, written by David Crane, Activision's ace designer — who we interview elsewhere on these pages. Over to you Professor!







Oh! I wasn't quite ready for you. Sorry! Right, it's Pitfall isn't it. Yes. Pitfall . . . now let me get my notes together. Ah yes! Here we go.

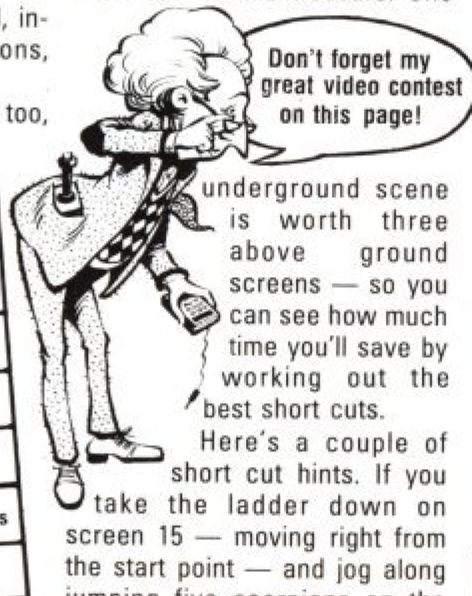


In Pitfall you control a little chap called Harry who is involved in a search for the lost treasure of Enarc. (Enarc/Crane, get-tit?) During his search through the 255 screens of the game Harry will encounter many dangers of the animal kind, including scorpions, crocodiles and snakes.

There are other hazards too, like rolling logs, forest fires, jungle lakes and the dreaded tar pits! Some of the lakes and pools disappear and reappear mysteriously just when poor old Harry least expects it!

Harry has just 20 minutes to find the 32 lost treasures of Enarc — and only three precious lives.

The key to winning at Pitfall is knowing how to use the underground passageways which are hidden under the jungle. Some of these passageways are dead ends — but others provide useful short cuts to the treasure. One



underground scene is worth three above ground screens — so you can see how much time you'll save by working out the best short cuts.

Here's a couple of short cut hints. If you take the ladder down on screen 15 — moving right from the start point — and jog along jumping five scorpions on the way — you'll come up in screen 19 having missed out four above ground crocodile screens. The crocs are your most dangerous enemy. More about them later!

Unfortunately by taking this route you miss out a gold bar. But when you learn that you'll discover six different treasures between screens 41-57, this strategy doesn't seem quite so bad after all! Another shortcut starts in screen 13 — again moving right from the start — this will take you to screen 19 — again avoiding a screenful of crocs!

Those crocodiles will perhaps prove to be your deadliest foe. So here's how to deal with them when you are faced with a screen which doesn't offer you the option of grabbing a vine and swinging over their gaping jaws. There are three of the reptiles in each screen.

Timing is all important. Wait until the first crocodile's jaws clamp snap shut then jump Harry onto his snout, quickly moving him to a spot behind the beast's jaws.

Now the crocs will open their jaws again displaying a fine set of sharp white teeth. But don't panic. Wait until their jaws close again and jump onto the second crocodile — repeating the quick step to behind his jaws. The third croc is dealt with in the same manner — but jump off quick and run to the next screen.

You can move left or right from Harry's start point. Moving right you come across more treasures earlier in the game. But by running left the rolling logs don't pose a hazard you can run along with them in the same direction.

TOP TEN	
1	**Battle Zone** Atari
2	**Enduro** Activision
3	**Pole Position** Atari
4	**Super Cobra** Parker Bros
5	**Popeye** Parker Bros
6	**Tutenkham** Parker Bros
7	**Donkey Kong** CBS
8	**River Raid** Activision
9	**Zaxxon** CBS
10	**Q*Bert** Parker Bros

TRY GETTING IT TAPED!

Hello! This is Professor Video calling! Last issue I began my lectures in the art of video-gaming, bringing you tips to help you take on any sort of alien!

I've managed to get hold of five sets of new video releases called *How to Beat Home Video Games*, produced by Polygram Video. Each set consists of three tapes which deal in depth with strategies to beat games and give those cunning hints and tips to make your scores higher and higher.

Volume one of *How to Beat Home Video Games* deals with The Best Games home video classics like Space Invaders and Missile Command, Volume two looks at the *Hot New Games*, including Pitfall, E.T., Raiders of the Lost Ark and Lock n' Chase. Volume three deals with games for the new systems which bring arcade quality games into the home, like the Colecovisión and the Vectrex. After you've watched each of these hour long tapes you'll be able to pick up your joystick and play with the confidence of a video-grandmaster!

So, how do you get your hands on a set of these great tapes? It's as easy as this — just send me your favourite points-winning tips for your favourite video game. I'll pick out the top five tipsters and they will each receive a set of the tapes! Describe the strategies or sneaky moves that beat giant gorillas, defeat alien invaders or save Pacmen from the grasp of ghosts! And that's just a few suggestions!

Fill in the coupon below and attach it to your entry. Send it to Professor Video Contest, *Computer and Video Games*, Durrant House, 8 Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5EJ. Closing date for this contest is February 16th — so get your tips in quick to beat the rush!

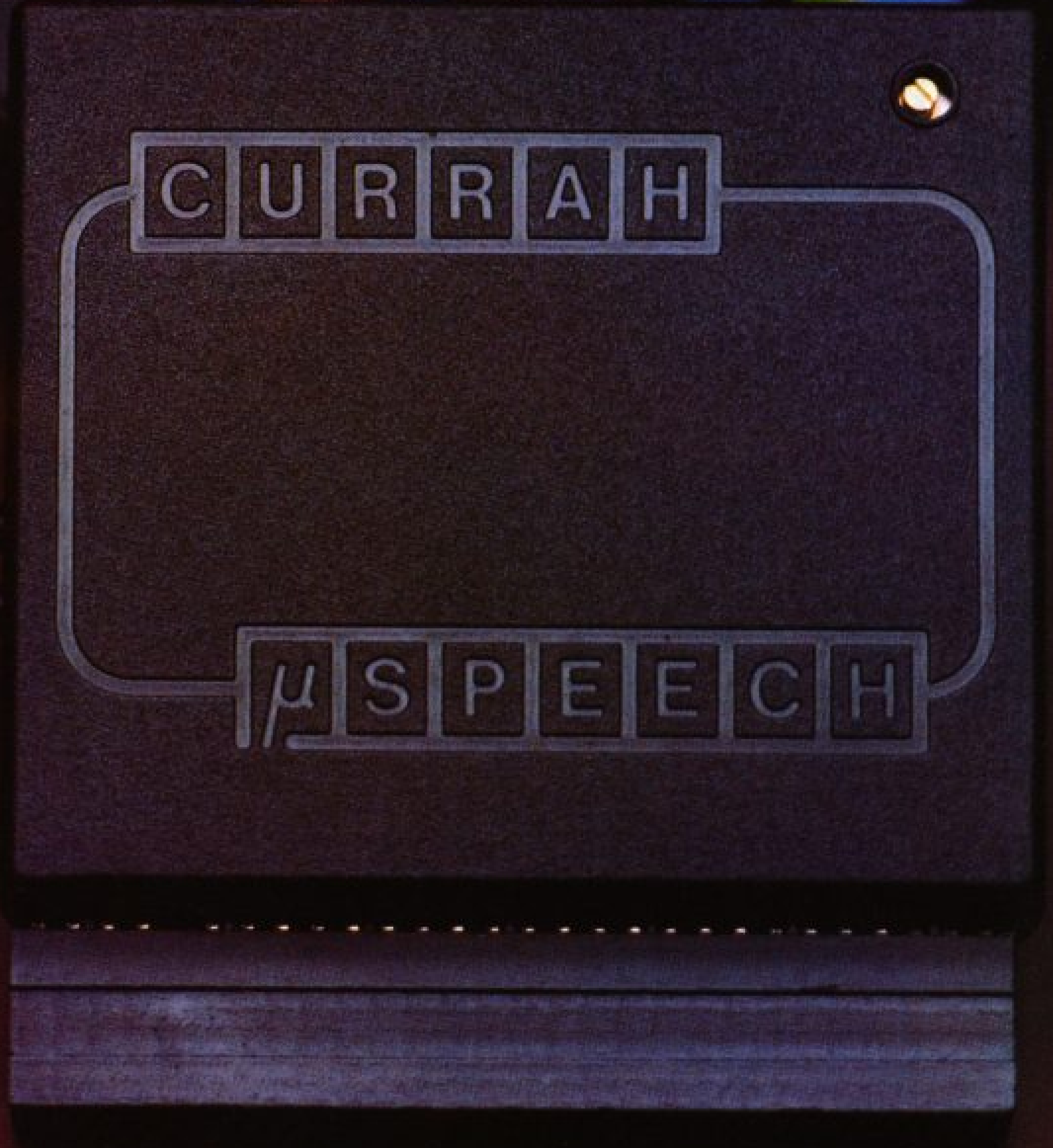
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- μ **Voice Chess** *(Artic)* **Mined Out** *(Quicksilva)*
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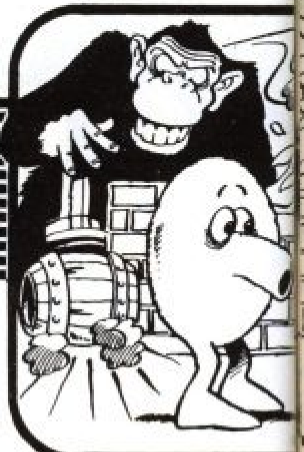
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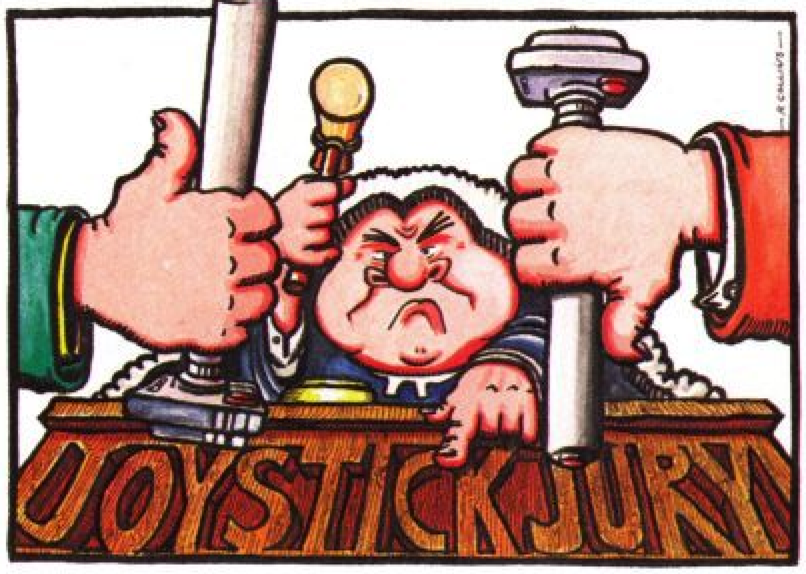
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VIDEO





TEST FOR SPACE ACES

If you fancy yourself as a real space ace then Gorf will give you the rank you truly deserve.

This home conversion of Bally's arcade game offers four separate shoot 'em up challenges and then awards a rank depending on your performance.

The first wave is Space Invaders with the addition of a force field. You have to blast gaps in the crescent shaped force field to enable you to pick off the Invaders as they advance down screen.

Stage Two is called Laser Attack and introduces a particularly vicious formation of aliens who buzz around the screen shooting long snaking beams of laser fire.

Laser Attack will have you wrenching and pulling on your joystick but tougher things still lie ahead in Space Warp.

In this level the aliens spiral out towards you corkscrew fashion. As they approach they get larger and will collide with your ship unless you can get them in your sights and blast them.

The fourth and final challenge is the Flag Ship. This is the Gorf's home base moving back and forth across the top of the screen. The force field is back in position so you will have to shoot a clearing in this and then make several direct hits on the ship before finishing it off.

Your mission is now complete and you receive your rank. I managed to attain the rank of Space Colonel — which wasn't bad considering I started out in life as a lowly Space Cadet.

If you think Gorf may enable you to become a hero overnight then forget it, because each time you complete one mission you get given a new, tougher one!

To attain really high rank you will have to do battle with faster, more numerous aliens with heavier fire power. Another cloning of a well known arcade game. Available now at £29.95 from Colecovision.

THE VERDICT
If you liked the arcade game you'll like the home version too.

- **Action** — 3 joysticks
- **Graphics** — 3 joysticks
- **Addiction** — 3 joysticks
- **Theme** — 2 joysticks

SMURF TO THE RESCUE

Smurf must be the "cutest" of all "cute" games! That little blue chap with the floppy white hat has even managed to overtake Pacman in the *C&VG* cuteometer ratings!

He first appeared on the Colecovision system — in search of Smurfette imprisoned by the evil Gargamel in a gloomy spider-filled castle. Now Smurf can continue his quest on the Atari VCS thanks to CBS Electronics! The Atari version follows faithfully in the footsteps of the Coleco original. Despite the limitations of Atari VCS graphics, the CBS conversion is remarkably good — particularly when it comes to skyscapes.

The Smurf still walks along a bit like a cross between John Wayne and Charlie Chaplin — which adds to his cuteness!

In case you've not seen the Coleco version, the object of Smurf is to rescue Smurfette from Gargamel the giant's castle. The Smurf has to trek across rough countryside, jump picket fences, leap over rivers and brave the dangers of Gargamel's dungeons before he can reach the giant's sitting room where Smurfette is imprisoned on a shelf high above a vast table.

The rivers and the final screen are the only features in the Atari version not found in the Coleco game.

If you play on skill level one, the Smurf simply has to hop, skip and jump along to the final screen — avoiding the nasty spider in the dungeon screen — and rescue Smurfette.

If you go up to skill level two, then Gargamel's hawks, smakes and bats will be after you — making the game much more challenging. You have to duck and weave as the assorted nasties come at you!



GORF



SUPER COBRA



ART MASTER



SMURF



DECATHLON



The final screen is quite difficult. Firstly you have to beware not to rush into it too quickly. If you do, your Smurf will walk right into a chain and you'll lose a life without even getting a crack at rescuing Smurfette. Unlike the Coleco original where you had to get your Smurf onto the top of a skull and then make a quick hop up to Smurfette, the Atari version adds a few extra hazards. You have to jump onto a chair, then onto the table, then another chair before finally being able to take that final leap onto Smurfette's shelf! All of which takes a bit of practice and good joystick control. If you play on skill level two, the castle bat will be attempting to thwart your rescue bid in this screen too!

The little character will soon win your heart — even though it does take a bit of time to master his leaps, hops and dodges. And CBS have obviously gone to a lot of trouble to ensure the VCS graphics match the Coleco's as closely as possible. Personally I liked this version better than the original — except it's still got that irritating little tune!

THE VERDICT

If you like cute games then Smurf is the ultimate in cuteness. But will the challenge last if you are a dedicated video player?

● Action	3
● Graphics	4
● Addiction	2
● Theme	3

MEET THE ART MASTER

Now for something completely different. Last month we complained that the range of games for the Vectrex lacked variety. Milton Bradley have responded to this criticism by submitting a game for the jury's scrutiny which is completely unique — not only for the Vectrex, but unique amongst all video games systems.

The Art Master cartridge enables you to become a video artist for an afternoon. Designed to work in conjunction with the Vectrex light pen, you can use Art Master to sketch, draw in dots and then connect them up, and even animate your drawings to create genuine cartoon animation.

The sketch function lets you enjoy the simple fun of doodling in light. You can copy pictures from books, write messages, or play noughts and crosses. The connect function lets you draw in dots. You can use this to create dot pictures and ask your friends to guess what they are before pressing the button to connect up the dots. Options are chosen by selecting choices from a menu using the light pen which you simply point at the function you require.

Although doodling in light is fun, the real attraction of this cartridge is the animate option. Although you cannot execute very sophisticated animation, you can do simple things like drawing a plant and making it grow, or make a stick man walk across the screen.

The Art Master cartridge comes complete with the light pen and an instruction booklet. In the shops now at around £30.00.

THE VERDICT

Adds a new dimension to your Vectrex.

Action	3
Graphics	3
Addiction	4
Theme	5

PURE GOLD DECATHLON

Decathlon is the most exhausting video game ever to come up before the jury! You should have seen them when they came out to present the verdict — the foreman could hardly stand up!

The reason for all this tiredness is due to an entirely new innovation in videogaming — the shake-speed joystick.

It's not a new joystick, but a new technique in David Crane's — of Pitfall fame — latest game — Decathlon.

You control an athlete taking part in the famous Olympic ten-event contest. To make your man run forward you have to move your stick as fast as you can from left to right. The faster you shake it, the faster he moves.

Speed is essential and not just to win the 100, 400, and 1500 metre races. You also need as much speed as you can muster to gain maximum height in the pole vault, high jump, and length in the long jump. Speed also enables you to gain momentum when throwing the javelin, discus, or putting the shot.

Your athlete has the advantage of a speedometer at the bottom of the screen, which measures his pace with a red "fuel level" style display. When he's at full pelt the line will shoot up to level six, and fall back to nil when stationary.

To jump or throw press the fire button. Some of the events are more fun than others — my personal favourites are the high jump and the hurdles.

This is a real winner of a game from Activision for the Atari VCS. Like the rest of the Activision games, if you get good enough at them you are rewarded. In Decathlon you can send off for a gold medal if you score over 10,000 points. Available now at £29.95.

THE VERDICT

This is your chance to go for gold. The most playable sports simulation for the VCS — for up to four players.

● Action	4
● Graphics	3
● Addiction	4
● Theme	5

SUPERCOBRA SUPER GAME

Scrolling games are pretty thin on the ground for the Intellivision, so the arrival of Parker's Super Cobra was greeted with considerable excitement by the ladies and gentlemen of Joystick Jury.

The Scramble-type game from Konami was a significant hit in the arcades despite being slightly over shadowed by Scramble.

Now the game has been licensed by Parker Brothers and converted for home use on the Intellivision.

Four levels of scrolling, bombing, shooting action have been incorporated in the game for one or two players.

Piloting your chopper through enemy terrain you are attacked by ground to air missiles, and bouncing bombs.

You'll need all the skill you can muster as the enemy barrage intensifies and the caverns and cityscape through which you must negotiate your chopper get narrower and narrower. Needless to say the Intel disc controller doesn't make this any easier.

After 7,000 miles a squadron of alien flying saucers attack you with missile fire. Fuel dumps are now few and far between so you can't afford to miss hitting them to boost your supplies each and every time they appear.

At the end of the caverns and city skyline are three enormous skyscrapers with the words Konami and Parker Brothers written on them.

You are now near the end of your long flight and have to bomb one last ground installation to complete your mission.

It will take the most skilled video ace several attempts to crack this one.

THE VERDICT

Another good game for Parker Brothers — filling a gap in this type of scrolling shoot 'em up for the Intellivision. Available now at £29.95.

● Action	3
● Graphics	3
● Addiction	3
● Theme	3

Next issue we're letting the members of our joystick jury loose on some hardware. Namely the joysticks themselves. We reckoned it was about time we took another look at the devices available to play games with — on home video game systems and home computers.

Our joystick jurors will be looking for the ultimate stick and at the same time will be bringing you up to date news of what's good in the world of sticks.

Also we'll be taking that look at laser-disc technology for the micro games player. That's using a few longer words to say what we promised you this month — but we just ran out of space this issue! We'll be taking a look into the future and predicting that you'll be able to play laser games on your home computer — games like the ones that are revolutionising the arcade industry right now!

TIPSTERS PAY RISE

On seeing that Seamus is paying £10 for hints and tips which reach his Program Extra page, I've been saving up especially, and can now afford to do the same. So from now on, any letters, hints or other tips which make the Bug Hunter page will earn £10 for their authors.

And talking of Seamus, I'm currently training him in the art of Bug Hunting and I assure you that he's very nice to talk to. So next time you have a problem and I'm off fighting the Bugs, ask for him.

Here at *C&VG* we've come up with a clever idea to keep calls evenly distributed between myself and Seamus. Next time you have a problem, toss a coin before you telephone the office. If it's heads, ask for me and if it's tails then ask for Seamus! And if it lands on its side, phone the *Guinness Book of Records*! Now, back to the serious stuff.

GO FASTER DRAGONS

Dragon users will probably be aware that some Dragons can be speeded up simply with a POKE. Not all machines will allow this. But now, courtesy of Bug Hunter Enterprises (with a little help from Ahlan Davison-Grey, our Dragon software reviewer), here's why, or why not.

The central chip in the Dragon is a 6809E, where the E means that the chip gets all its timing signals from an external clock. The clock takes the form of a crystal, and the frequencies it produces are handled by another chip.

However, you can alter some of the registers in this last chip to alter the speed of the clock which drives the 6809. This has the effect of speeding up the computer so that some games will run twice their normal speed.

However, the 6809 was not designed to run at this speed, so don't be disappointed if yours doesn't. But, says Ahlan, the fact that so many do, is a tribute to Motorola, the manufacturer.

There is certainly nothing wrong with a Dragon which will not run at the higher speed.

CHEQUERED FLAG — PSION

James Alston from Bromley, Kent, writes to tell me of what he thinks is a bug in Chequered Flag. At the end of a race, he says, the computer is supposed to print the fastest lap time. In fact it prints up the time taken to complete the last lap. Has anyone else found this problem?

SPECTRUM GRAPHICS

We still get calls from Spectrum owners who have tried running games from our magazine but all the graphics come out as lower case letters.

This is because the game uses user-defined graphics characters — that's what all those DATA lines are for.

The solution is simple. If, when typing a Spectrum program, you see a PRINT line with some lower case (small as opposed to CAPITAL) letters in speech marks, these are probably user-defined graphics and need to be entered in graphics mode.

To do this, type the line in as normal but when you get to the letters, enter graphics mode by typing CAPS-SHIFT with 9 to get a G cursor. Enter the characters and then get out of graphics mode by typing CAPS SHIFT with 9 again, and finish typing the line.



Write to me at Bug Hunter, Computer and Video Games, Durrant House, 8 Herbal Hill, London, EC1R 5EJ. Or phone me on 01-278-3881.

RABBIT RAID — SPECTRUM

If you managed to get the graphics correct in Rabbit Raid for the Spectrum from November's issue, then here's how to add some sound to it, courtesy of Ian Lewis from Lewes, East Sussex, who's the first to earn the new improved sum of £10 for his efforts.

On line 30 after RAIDd": and before GOSUB add BEEP .3,7: BEEP 1,.7:Beep .3,7 and at the end of line 330 add :BEEP .05,14.

Ian also suggests that a more realistic score system is made by changing line 250 from S=S+100 to S=S+250.

TIPS FOR THE ATARI

Here are a few useful tips for the Atari 400/600/800 from Christopher Roche of Sutton Coldfield.

To disable the break key, type POKE 16,64: POKE 53774,64. To disable the system reset button, try POKE 580,1. Now, if anyone presses it, the machine will erase all its memory including the program.

To destroy all variables try FOR X=PEEK(130)+256*PEEK(131) TO PEEK(132)+256*PEEK(133):
POKE X,0:NEXT X.

After entering this, when LIST is typed the program will be listed in an unreadable form.

Also for Atari owners who keep having occasional errors with the 410 cassette recorder, try typing LPRINT before CSAVEing. This will produce a harmless error message, but just continue as normal. Thanks go to Donald Dods from West Lothian for this.

WILD WEST — VIC 20

Vic 20 owners may have been surprised by the Wild West program from December's issue. Even though the program needed a super expander cartridge, there were still three commands in there that the machine did not understand. The problem stemmed from the fact that we haven't saved up enough for a Vic printer yet, so I loaded it into our Pet to be listed.

However, because you can't get a super expander for a Pet, some of the tokens from the cassette were misinterpreted. I can now put you out of your anguish by revealing that BACKUP should be COLOUR, APPEND should really be SOUND while SYNTAX should actually read RJOY. You will now be able to get the game running perfectly.

I am still getting letters about bugs in professional software for micros. With Christmas just gone, there must be quite a few micro owners who have bought software with bugs in it.

The latest batch comes from Peter Lee of Ilford, Essex. Peter talks about problems with Psion's Flight Simulation, Ocean's Kong and has also told me of a problem in Valhalla which causes the program to return you to BASIC, able to LIST the game!

Well, that's it for another month. Don't forget that you can always talk to me about your computer problems on 01-278 3881. I've just had one of those posh answering machines fitted to the bug phone so if you are suddenly struck by a bug in the middle of the night or at the weekend you can leave me a message. You may also find that the machine is on during the day if I'm tied up with the dreaded Seventh Empire — someone has to type all your moves into the computer! — but leave me a message and I'll call you back.

BY ROBERT SCHIFREEN

NEW

Meet Alf, the Dustman. Not any ordinary dustman, but a hyper-intelligent mega-dustman. He has found himself in a spot of bovver with neither lawnmowers nor bears, but numerous tons of homicidal rubbish. To make life even more difficult (and confusing) his favourite beer is in hot pursuit! But there is help on the way, 'The friends of the Binless' try to assist Alf in overcoming the evil waste. Meet Alf, his friends, his enemies, and 20 waves of sheer madness.

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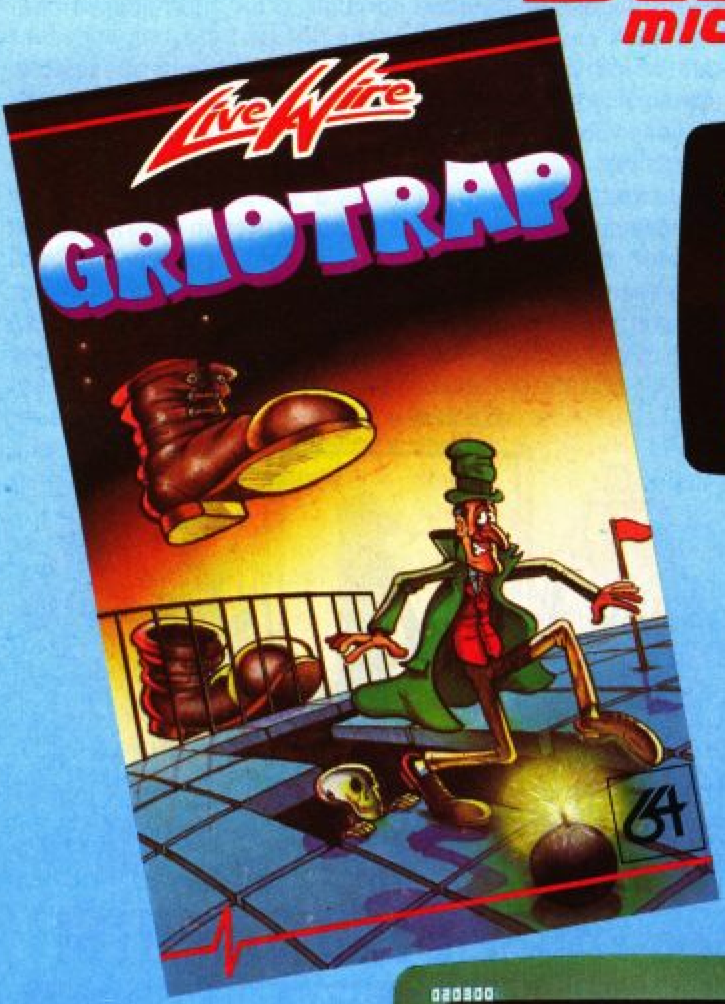
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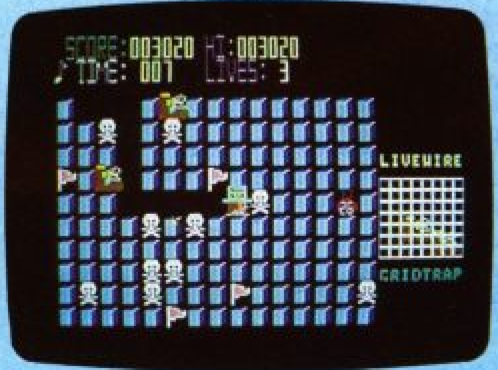
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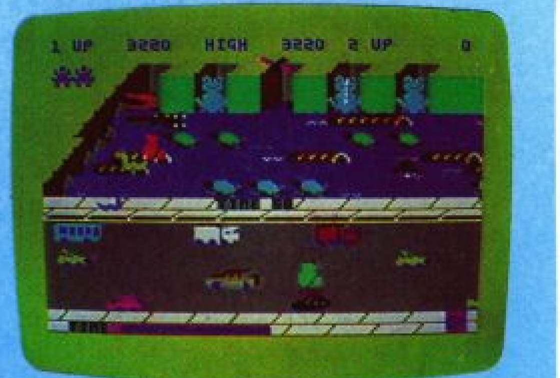
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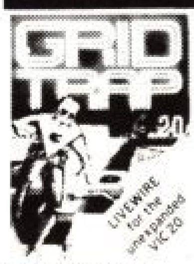
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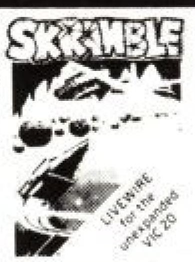
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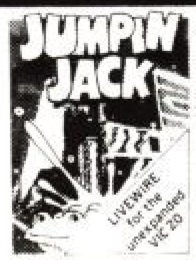
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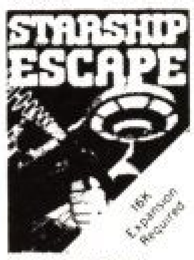
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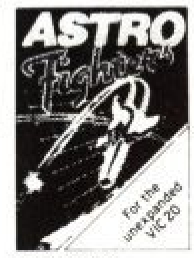
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ARCADE



The latest convert from video to pinball is that master of arcade abuse Q*Bert. Gottlieb have transferred the little chap from video-screen to pinball playfield in Q*Bert's Quest. And all Mr Q's mates have come along too. Coily, Ugg and Wrongway are still out to make life difficult for Q*Bert as he attempts to build his pyramid of coloured cubes.

By hitting one target — the monster's den — you'll release an extra ball, but the monsters escape too to cause Q*Bert more problems.

This machine has one irritating feature — the ball tends to stick around the upper chicane section of the playfield, hesitating at entrances to passageways — and this upsets the rhythm of play which generally is fast and furious.

For soccer fans Gottlieb offers Striker — the player takes on the pinball machine's team clad in yellow. The player gets the white strip! There are, of course, lots of references to penalties, free kicks, and corners — but the game is still fairly basic on its general playability. Gottlieb are still trying to find that one game that clicks with pinball fans — but to give them their due they are real triers!

Shock horror probe department. Can it be true? Matthew Broderick, the star of the movie War Games — the one about the computer-kid who almost starts World War Three by tapping into the American defence system with his home micro — doesn't really like computers! Talking to the London *Evening Standard* Matthew said: "Computers are not my thing at all. I don't like them and I don't understand them very well. I play video games, but even then I like pinball more."

Don't forget we're still interested in hearing your views on pinball and your high scores too.

HOLD ON — GOING DOWN, DOWN, DOWN . . .!

Pee-awww! Whee! Zzing! You'll have to duck, dodge and jump to escape the bullets of those shifty-eyed, trigger-happy security men.

Elevator Action certainly lives up to its title — your aim is to get from the top to the bottom of a top security defence building via lifts and escalators.

In your search for the top secret documents, you'll come up against a crew of lean, mean security cops, all toting pistols and ready to stop you at any cost from reaching your get-away car.

You'll have to keep your wits about you while you descend, as you stand a very good chance of getting shot.

On each floor is a series of closed doors, and a security man, or two, could leap out at any time blasting away. You carry a gun, as do all good trainees of 007, and you'll soon learn a few tricks to get past the baddies as you shoot up and down in the lifts.

Using your joystick to keep the lift between floors, wait until one of the baddies takes a pot shot at you and then quickly move to his level and shoot back. Because there is a small time delay while he reloads, you can be sure of a safe hit!

Trained by your government, you're also a karate expert. Using the jump button, you can leap off the lift and deliver a lethal, mind-blowing kick to your opponent which will effectively lay him out!

ELEVATOR ACTION

Red doors appear at random and behind each one are secret documents which will earn you bonus points. If you go for the red doors, keep your eyes peeled as the guards will redouble their efforts to get you.

As you descend, the floors become wider, there are more doors, more security men and up to five lifts travelling up and down. A lot of skill is needed to reach this stage, to dodge the rapid hail of fire and still get through to the next floor in one piece.

The building must resemble the Empire State in size as there seem to be an awful lot of levels to get through before you can make a run for it.

Elevator Action by Taito Corporation has a really original theme and I found it a pleasant change from the normal spaceage shoot-em-ups.



BLAZE THOSE STAR BANDITS!

Scramble! Bandits at 3 o'clock! You push your joystick forward and enter the fray. The space city must be saved at all costs.

Weaving and dodging through the city's underground highways, you whiz round a sharp 90 degree bend to beat off an enemy attack of fighter space ships. You can't relax your vigilance for a second — more fighters are attacking from the left.

STAR BLAZER

Leaving the city you swoop through the crags and peaks of a mountain range to enter a valley. With lasers firing, you steady your craft and take careful aim at a convoy of tanks.

Star Blazer by Sega is the official follow-up to Astron Belt but, unlike Astron Belt which is played entirely in space, you will be battling it out over many different terrains which include the interstellar airport, rocky mountains, oceans and deepest space.

The graphics are comparable with Astron Belt and are produced with the aid of Scanimate, a device which Sega claims creates ultra-realistic images. I tend to agree. The ocean seems to heave and roll and the fighters and enemy mothership are very life-like — they resemble the Empire's battle ships of Star Wars fame.

Arcade managers will now be able to convert the old Astron Belt machines to the new Star Blazer by using the conversion kit from Sega.

DONKEY KONG SWINGS BACK

DONKEY KONG

One of the latest games from Nintendo is Donkey Kong 3 and the new game introduces a likeable character, Stanley a gardner, who takes over where Mario left off — only this time he fends off the mad monkey to defend his greenhouse.

Armed only with a spray gun, Stanley chases Donkey Kong up the vines, keeping nasty insects and critters away from his flowers. Each pest has a personality of its own and Stanley must work fast and furiously to keep the creepies under control. If he is quick and cunning enough, he can get the super sprayer and make quick work of Donkey Kong and his pack of pests.

There are three different playboards and four difficulty levels to Donkey Kong 3 providing, variety and challenge. One or two persons can play and each player can get from three to six game lives. When you reach 30,000, 40,000 and 50,000 points, bonus lives are awarded.

The character's proven popularity, combined with fast action and superior sound effects, make Donkey Kong 3 a sure hit in arcades.

Illustrations: Dorian Cross

ACTION

SAVED BY A SAMURAI SWORD

CLIFF HANGER

It's nail-biting stuff as your two lanky heroes almost career off the edge of a cliff in their efforts to escape the bunch of heavies in hot pursuit.

Aptly named, Cliff Hanger keeps you on your toes throughout this fun-packed game filled with bizarre and amusing scenes, including nerve-racking car and helicopter chases, a beautiful girl to rescue and a meeting with some sinister hooded gangsters.

With animated cartoon style graphics, comparable to Dragon's Lair, Cliff Hanger is one of the first games of its type to reach the UK. In the next few months we predict that laser disc games will become quite common in the arcades, but at the moment they are still very much a novelty.

The story begins with your two young lads escaping from a casino with bags of counterfeit money. They leap into their bubble car and a mad chase ensues through the busy streets.

Arriving in the country, they have a puncture and, whilst repairing this, they see the Mafia-like baddies roar past in a limousine chasing a helpless and beautiful blonde in a 2CV! Leaping to their feet, the boys pile into the bubble and give chase. A helicopter chase follows and our intrepid heroes are rescued by the timely arrival of a samurai warrior in the city's sewers! As he brings the 'copter crashing to the ground with his sword, he utters a few memorable words in a very un-Japanese accent — "Once again I cut a worthless object"!!

A four-way joystick and feet and hand buttons control the action which is played out in cartoon-style graphics. Instructions like 'Stick' and 'Action' will flash onto the screen and it's then up to you to decide in which direction to move and whether to use hands or feet. Each time you make a wrong move, you'll be told what you did wrong.

As in all laser disc games, there is a dead area between scenes while the laser scans the disc for the next scenario. This has been very well disguised with a notice wishing you good luck in the next scene.

With lots of action and great graphics, Cliff Hanger by Stern Electronics will certainly be a hit in the arcades in the New Year.



WHIZZKID RACES INTO ACTION

SUPERBIKE

If you think you're a scrambling whizz-kid — then try riding the Super Bike.

Bombing down a country lane you shift into top gear and revving up your bike try to break the ton. Suddenly a series of potholes split the road in front of you — jerking on the handle bars you pull the bike into the air and sail across them. But don't get too confident, more is to come.

Packed full of stunts, you've got every opportunity to prove that you're at least as good as or better than the infamous Eddie Kidd. Leaping over potholes, fallen trees and bushes is the least of your problems. Armies of death heads in the form of skulls and crossed bones descend on you from out of the blue and, armed with a fire button, you must blast them back to hell before they land on you.

Other feats of skill and dexterity will include whizzing up a ramp and jumping over a line of buses and, providing you've managed to stay on your bike, you'll reach a tunnel which has to be negotiated to reach the end of the game.

Beware the skulls — they'll be attacking from behind as well as in front.

CUNNING IN THE COCKPIT

FIRE FOX

Atari is entering into the laser disc games race with what promises to be a thrilling spin-off from the movie Fire Fox, based on the action film by Warner Brothers which starred Clint Eastwood.

It's rumoured that hundreds of thousands of dollars were spent buying the rights to Fire Fox and producing the arcarde game with the aid of a simulation model of the cockpit.

You've stolen a top secret Russian fighter jet and have to fly it out of Russian territory to the Americans. The Russians don't let you get away easily and send up missiles and other fighter jets to stop you. Your plane has its own weapons system, but you'll have to use your skill as a fighter pilot and a lot of native cunning to escape in one piece.

Atari believe that Fire Fox will be a spectacular success and are planning to launch it sometime this year.



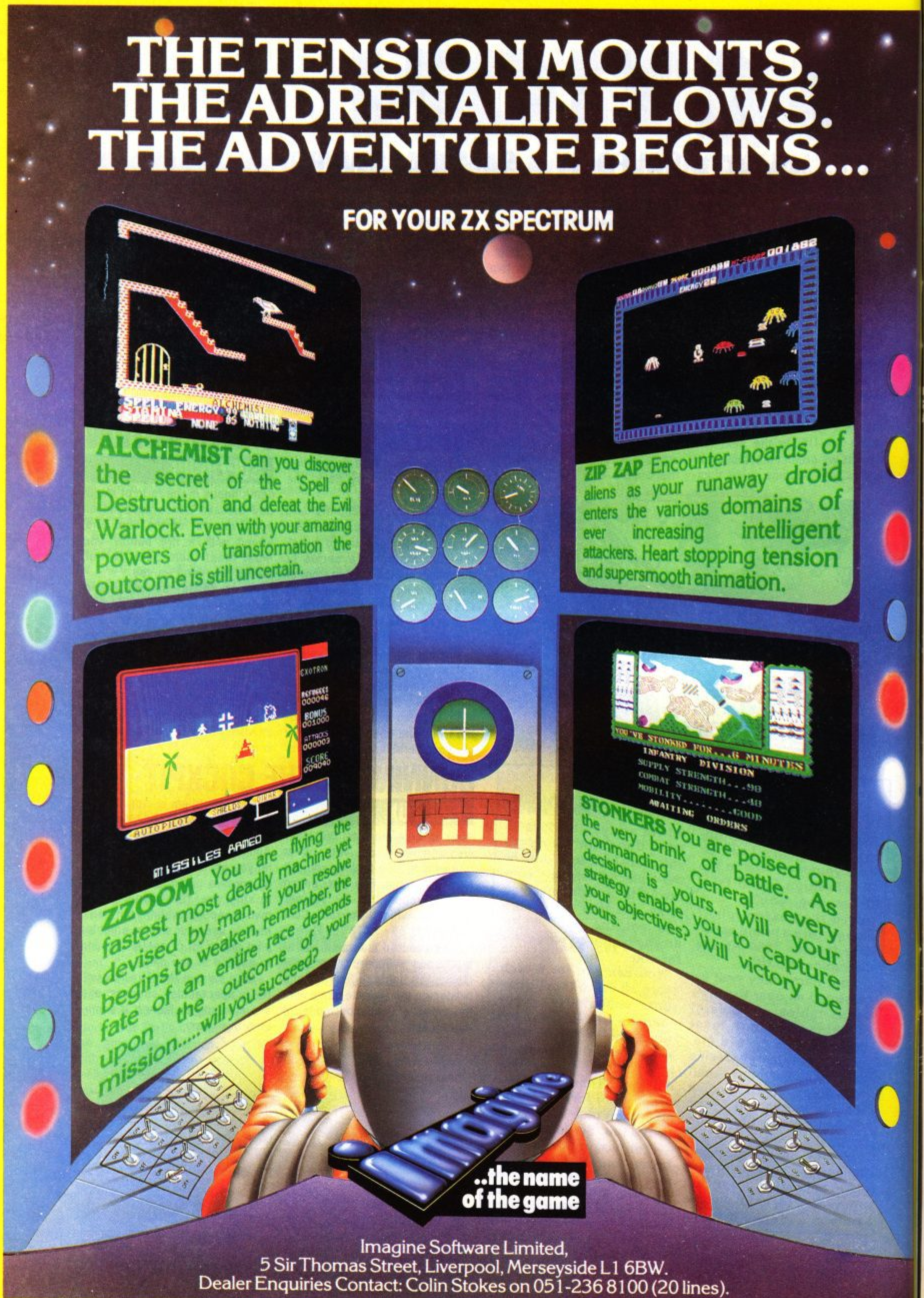
THE SEARCH IS ON FOR THE C&VG 1984 ARCADE CHAMPION!

Have you rescued the Princess in Dragon's Lair? Or have you come first in the Pole Position Grand Prix? Or maybe you've destroyed the Zaxxon robot? If so you are a prime candidate for our 1984 Arcade Championship title.

Your name may well be plastered all over the high score tables on several machines in your local arcade — but believe me, you can only call yourself a true arcade champ when you stand up to receive the *Computer and Video Games* Arcade Champion trophy!

In our next issue we'll begin the search for our 1984 champion. Your first move will be to fill out the coupon and mail it to us. All we ask you to do is to take the form along to your local arcade, pub or the place where your favourite arcade machine lurks, get that high score and get the publican or arcade owner to witness it for you.

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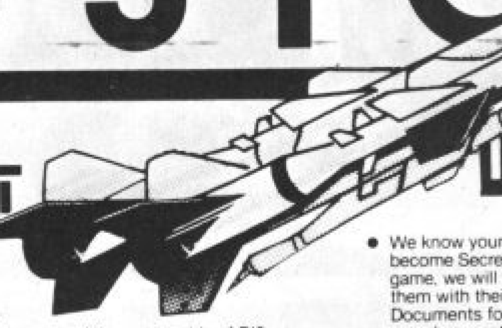
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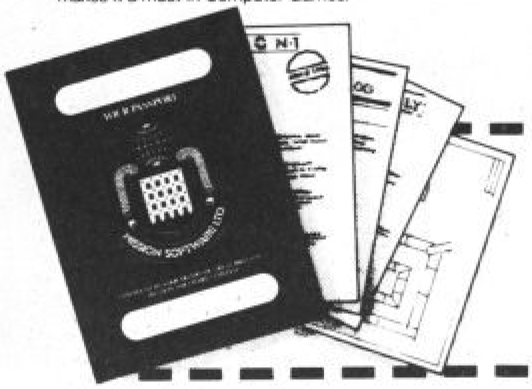
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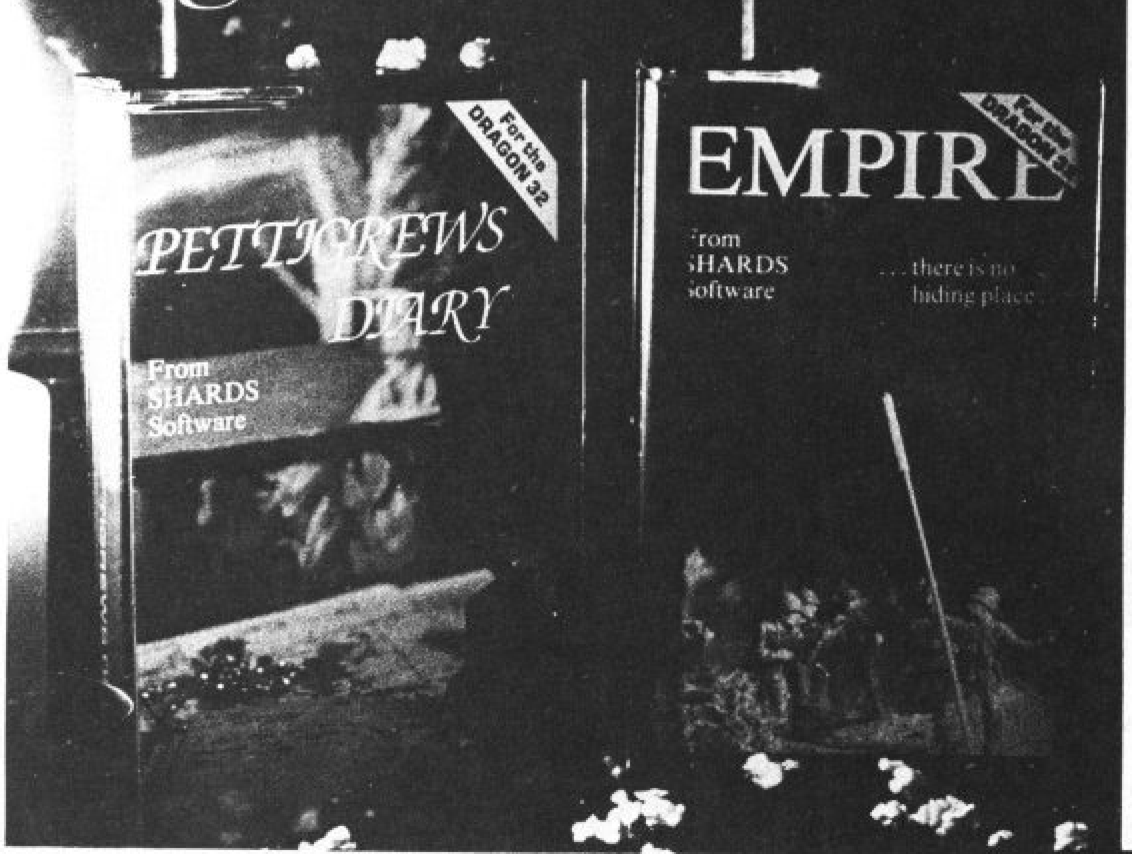
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KEEPING MARY AMUSED!

BY KEITH CAMPBELL

And now for something completely different! A graphics adventure where the action is played out before your very eyes!

Valhalla loads in a Spectrum under a striking title page and offers you six quests. These are to find special hidden objects: Ofnir (key), Drapnir (ring), Skornir (shield), Skalir (sword), Felstrong (axe) and Grimnir (helmet). These obnirs can only be discovronged in the above ordir.

The gameworld has a cast of dozens, and at any location you may expect to meet and perhaps cross swords with a range of gods and goddesses (including Mary), giants, dwarfs, wolves and dragons, of varying temperaments and abilities.

In search of the foreign objects, you move around by issuing the usual Adventure commands, but may also play a 'wild card' by jumping on to a ringway if one is present. This is a magical method of transportation rather than a continuous urban dual carriageway, and to travel one you must be carrying, of course, a ring!

Where *Valhalla* is different from other graphical Adventures is in its display format — the screen is split into three bands.

On arrival at a location, the top half displays an excellent hi-res picture, drawn very quickly. I got the impression that these graphics were composed of modules, re-arranged to give many combinations of picture from the same blocks.

Next, the lower 25% shows the text replies, whilst the final band rather too slowly draws the characters and objects present. The centre band therefore appears to form a continuous picture with the top band, like a stage.

In some ways, this game is like *Hobbit*, for all the characters have a mind of their own, and appear, disappear, drop things and attack you and each other according to their whims. But unlike *Hobbit*, they actually move. Their little legs walk, they jump about whilst fighting, and lift their wine to their heads when they drink. As this happens, so a text commentary is written below. If you want to pick up an object, then your figure will walk across the screen and get it.

Of course, all this slows down the rate

A COLOSSAL TALE OF COUNTRY FOLK

James Frost is stuck with a Colossal problem, trying to pass the clam. He is at his Witts End — and that baffles him too!

Steve Waller and Ian Hall have so far amassed 274 points out of 1100 in this game, and admit they can get no further. They have heard of dwarfs sleeping in a cave, and of dynamite. They urgently need directions to find them. If I can't help, who can, they ask? Oh dear — I can't? Who can?

But the most elegant Colossal plea comes from Mr. Dan Clark and Dr. Andrea Kingston, playing away at Skylark Farmhouse near Norwich. Rustics that they are, they turned bard to crave help:

Bumpkins' Lament

Colossal Classic mainframe game,
Is driving us poor kids insane.
It seems we've run right out of luck,
We get so far and then get stuck.

We have the jewelry and the vase,
The golden eggs and silver bars,
The spices and the precious nugget
(Quite a way we had to lug it).

Can you help us in some measure
With the other hidden treasure?
Y2, carved upon a rock,
Could it be a secret lock?

The rug we think perhaps can fly
To secret places in the sky.
Will the mirror smashed and broken,
Lead us to another token?

"Hocus! Sesame! Shazam!"
"Nothing happens" — blast and damn!
Bumpkins both in helpless plight
Please save us from more sleepless nights.

To which I can but reply:

Hi Dan and And! Oh woe is mine!
I've had no tape from Level 9,
And so, you see, I must rely
On that great Mainframe in the sky.

My problem is with ease predicted,
Time on Comshare's much restricted.
Thus forays in this game are brief
And efforts mostly come to grief.

I've caged the bird that wings it quick,
(That rusty star's a nasty trick!)
I've built and crossed a bridge of crystal,
And lost lamp's light for reasons fiscal.

I've kissed a frog (some think me kinky!)
And passed on warts to princess slinky.
I think I'll catch some tadpoles soon
The way those frogs cavort the room!

To readers all with 9's adventure!
I herewith offer my debenture,
In return for heaps of clues.
Please put an end to bumpkin blues.

EDUCATION THROUGH ADVENTURE

Solving an Adventure, as most of us know to our cost, is often a matter not only of solving a puzzle or being observant, but of hitting upon a particular word or phrase. Out comes a dictionary and Roget's Thesaurus, and with perseverance, we win through!

But what of an Adventure written in a foreign language? Never seen one around? Not played *'La Maison d'Amusement Mystère*? Nor have I!

Consider the plight of Walter Goegebeur from Edegem, near Brussels. "Hoping you will forgive my mistakes against 'living English'," writes Walter, "but you're my last hope from being kept away from cracking Scott's *Mystery Fun House*". Walter had spent more than a month consulting friends and relatives, and studying English dictionaries, to no avail. He still got shot from the shooting gallery.

Walter could not be sure whether it was an English word or phrase he needed, or if his problem was the puzzle itself! So I was pleased to be able to reassure him on his English, and spill the beans! (Sorry, Walter — I mean 'reveal all'). That, of course, highlights one of the difficulties of playing Adventure in a foreign language. The phrase I just used has nothing to do with making a nasty mess in the kitchen! However, because you have to master its idioms, playing Adventure in a foreign language is a good way of learning the 'living' language!

Rene di Giovanni wrote from Amsterdam to relate his difficulties with *Espionage Island* played on a ZX81. He was stuck in the plane, and unable to escape without dying. PULL CORD is the clue, and Rene could see the cord, but perhaps that phrase is particularly English.

On the other side of the coin, our lock-collector and masochist Adventure-converter, Bill Stanton, spent his holidays in Germany, and got involved in translating a French Adventure. "Have you ever tried getting French-speaking Germans to give you the sense of idiomatic French phrases in German-English . . . ?" asks Bill. He is now back home in St. Alban's trying to recover, and probably programming his Pet with well known Basic statements like: POUR JE% = 1 A 8 : SI (X(JE%)=Z) ET (Y=9) PUIS VA A 8000 PROCHAIN JE%.

On a more serious note, the Adventure format lends itself admirably to educational software of all sorts, especially languages. It is an area of software that has not been exploited. Wouldn't school pupils find it fun if their next French homework was "Comment reveillez-vous la dragon dormante"? They would have to play a special version of Adventureland — in compiled French, of course!

of play, but if you like watching it all happen, then you'll put up with that.

Valhalla has a range of special commands. WHO will list the characters in the text area, with an arrow pointing upwards to each image. WHAT will do the same for objects, HOW will tell you your current strength and so on. Should you type in anything untoward, you will be told Mary is not amused. A little fellow will walk onstage, and in a very determined way approach you to remonstrate. This will cause your figure to blush severely!

Valhalla is written in Basic with some machine code routines. A look at the listing won't reveal much in the way of clues. And despite protection against looking at the listing, it is easy because, despite all the ballyhoo preceding its arrival, and a seven-strong production team, *Valhalla* has at least one bug, which will cause the program to stop and you to reload. But will YOU discover the words that crash the game?

Valhalla is from Legend, overpriced and overrated at £14.95.

GATEWAY

When we had a family visit recently, all the kids made for the computer room. This is known in most houses as a dining room — but it enables us to play while we eat!

They ignored *Space Adventure* on the Spectrum (don't blame them) and *Zork* on the TRS-80 (fools!), and although Dougie aged 8, defected to *Donkey Kong* on the Dragon, Karl and Rebecca headed straight for *Gateway to the Skies* on the Beeb. Of course, the Beeb is a schoolfriend, and my ulterior motive in getting them to help me through a review whilst being hospitable to visitors had worked!

I went off to quaff home-made beer and make polite conversation, and occasionally popped back in to see how they were doing.

Quick responses — good! White on black text — bad! Replies less than terse — good! Karl had used a credit card in the village supermarket and got the reply "That'll do nicely!" I liked it ! Back to the quaffing . . .

I could hardly wait till they all went, and I was straight on to the Beeb.

Now hardy Adventurer's will never pass up the opportunity to take a lamp or food. Once spotted, you can guarantee there will be an area of darkness ahead, and that you will need sustenance. So I took the lamp offered me in the gift shop, and proceeded to the supermarket with my credit card for food. That is where it all went wrong.

The supermarket cashier ratted on the deal, disappearing with my card without handing over the food. On impulse, I tried to shoot her with my laser gun. "I don't understand the word cashier." EXAMINE FOOD. "I don't understand the word EXAMINE." LOOK FOOD told me where I was.

Now just as necessary as a lamp, is the Adventurer's stock-in-trade — "LOOK (or examine) object". Being able to look at, and examine things is one of the means by which an Adventurer gets mystery and excitement in a game. Through this device, the author is able to avoid blatant clues, making the player wait until he deduces there must be more information. The player is then often given a puzzle or cryptic clue to chew on.

I got the food later, but my enthusiasm was shattered. A pity, for this game held such promise!

Vocabulary — bad. Logic/difficulty — doubtful. Plot/theme — shakily promising. Shall I try again . . .?

Gateway to the Skies comes in two parts. I only looked at the first half, as you have to save data at the end of it to enter part two.

From Solar Soft. For the 32k BBC, priced £8, 48k Spectrum, priced £6.95.

PHILOSOPHERS, INCAS AND SORCERORS

Many try to enter the porthole, but are cursed by the Incas: carry the right things — one of them must be chiselled out of the flint.

To James Jennett playing *Ship of Doom:* a double switch may cast light on your problem.

To Brian Jones playing *Sorceror's Island:* bribery can pay dividends.

For the impossible mission: don't be bad — do as you oughta, take the bomb up to the water.

For philosophers everywhere: approach cheese with protective device, and after taking it, drop it every so often for a bit. To relieve your neck, find the workman in the ME passages. Hop, crawl and run when in danger! And how many dogs do you want? Settle for three? Can you spot the second? You'll have to spot the third!



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HELPLINE

Every now and again one of those desperate people trapped in a small room with a calculator writes in. The fact they are not in an asylum yet is a tribute to their tenacity. Has ANYONE got out of there since I last wrote about *Deathmaze 5000*, a couple of years ago?

Mr. Poles of Lutterworth will be disappointed to learn that the general consensus of opinion is that the *Philosopher's Quest* lamp cannot be lit.

Congratulations to Robert Davidson from Macclesfield, and Colin Bignell down in Littlehampton, the only readers so far to lay claim to completing this game. In a long helpful letter, Robert suggests that Mr. Poles must have been sleeping with the lamp on, for the game can be completed without relighting it. Colin Bignell says it cannot be relit, and warns Mr. Poles to be careful in its use — especially when talking to the old sailor. James Frost of Windlesham agrees, and suggests using matches for extra time.

But what's this? Karl Howard writes from Rochdale and says the lamp CAN be relit — type RUB LAMP. I suspect the confusion is because Mr. Poles did not state whether or not he had run out of fuel.

Shaggy dogs, cheese and albatrosses are among the favourite subjects of all good Philosophers, and clues have arrived from numerous sources, including Roger Durrant, Mark Chaffey, and C. M. F. Bone, to help David Somekh.

Keith Lumb from Lowton near Warrington is shedding crocodile tears in the everglades. He is playing, or rather trying to play, *Sphinx*. Why does his magic bridge collapse when he tries to cross it? And what about those crocs?

Christopher Tihanyi is a troubled man. He's got five adventures in a state of chaos down in Bristol. I can help him directly with some, but here is a plea in which I join — how DO you open the Xenos safe?

Martin Brunt of Woolwich is lucky enough to be playing *Zork* on a VAX-11 750, but is unlucky to have run into severe problems. (Don't we all!?) What is the receptacle in the balloon for? Martin suspects it's for something with which to heat the air, but the only suitable object he can find is an ivory torch which burns out after melting the glacier. Come in *Zork* players!

Do you know where to find the second stone tablet in *Golden Voyage*, to help Paul Hurditch in Rotherham?

Some find *Mission Impossible* too simple, others impossible. Disarming the bomb has caused much confusion, especially to Andrew Dobson. See page 57 for the clue.

So many readers have written in with high *Hobbit* scores, it would take a page to list the names! So here is the only claimant to a 100% score so far — by Keith Oliver of Tollesbury.

From David Worbishley of Baldingstone, come some comments about *Swords and Serpents*. He suggests that Messrs. Hughes and Nosworthy have not enjoyed the full flavour of the game, which can only be done playing the two-player version.

"The great advantage this has is that the players can actually enter the dragon's lair, gather up the treasures inside, and talk to each other to combat the excruciating boredom," writes David. "Incidentally," he adds, "the dragon plays no part in the game and might just as well be a giant sausage as a sinister serpent."

If YOU are stuck in an Adventure, can help an Adventurer in distress, or have an interesting or amusing Adventure experience, write to me at Adventure Helpline, *Computer & Video Games*, Durrant House, 8 Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5JB.

CROSS THE DOTS!

Space Island turns your Spectrum into a control panel on board a starship in geostationary orbit above the island of Roba on the planet Zyro. You control an android who 'stands alone amidst wreckage and awaits your command.' Your TV set becomes a videoscanner (what else?) showing an 'orbital map' of Roba Island.

Somehow my Spectrum didn't quite have the feel of a control panel — well, let's face it, have you ever seen a control panel you can slip into your back pocket and not notice?

Obviously my pet android felt this, for when I tried to move him around the tiny island (him a dirty great cross trying to rendezvous with microscopic dots representing objects), he didn't respond with quite the alacrity one might expect from such a high-tech device. Once moving, this obstinate creature would proceed inexorably in the same direction until commanded otherwise. Even after a good night's sleep he would wake up and plod on regardless in obedience to his previous instruction!

Apart from this painful method of movement, *Space Island* boasts a vocabulary of 19 words, yes folks — 19! Not whole words admittedly, but the initial letters of verbs.

The cassette inlay mentions slick machine code display. However, the program is written in Basic, and reaction is just not slick enough to give adequate control.

Space Island is for 48k Spectrum from Terminal Software, price £6.95. Fairly apt, for if I'd played it for much longer, I would now be suffering from terminal boredom.



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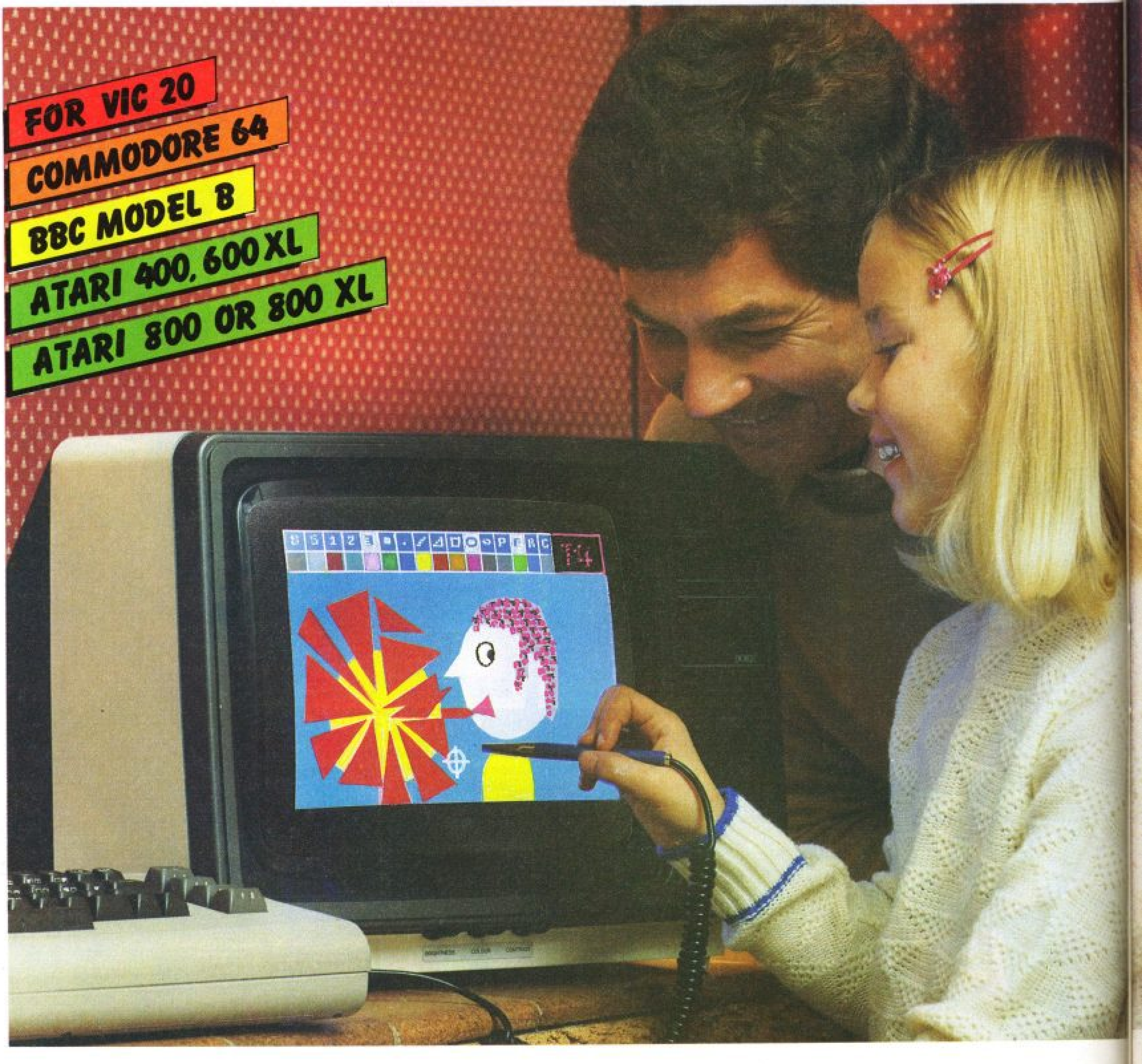
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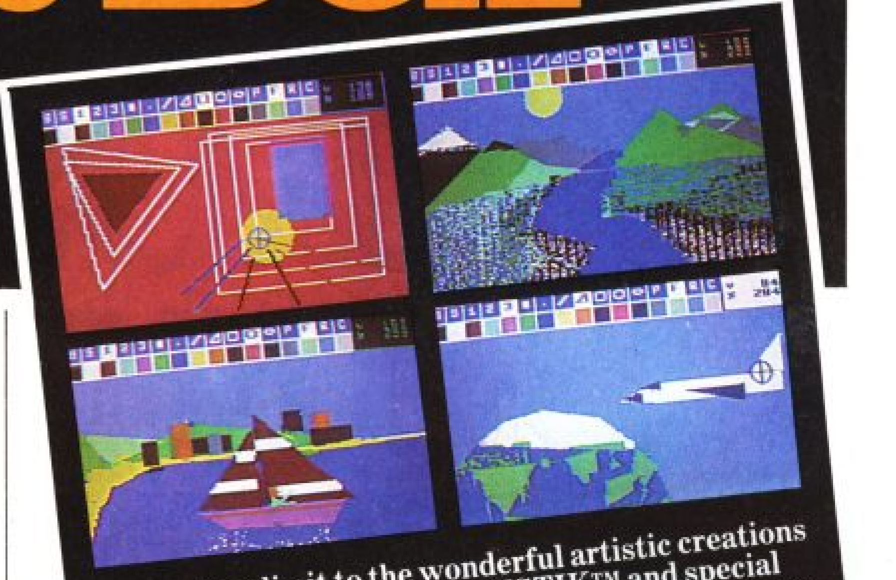
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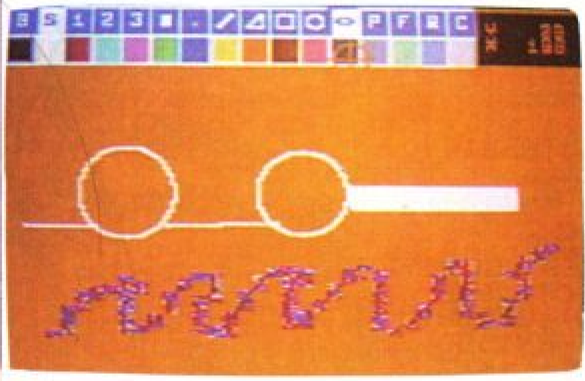
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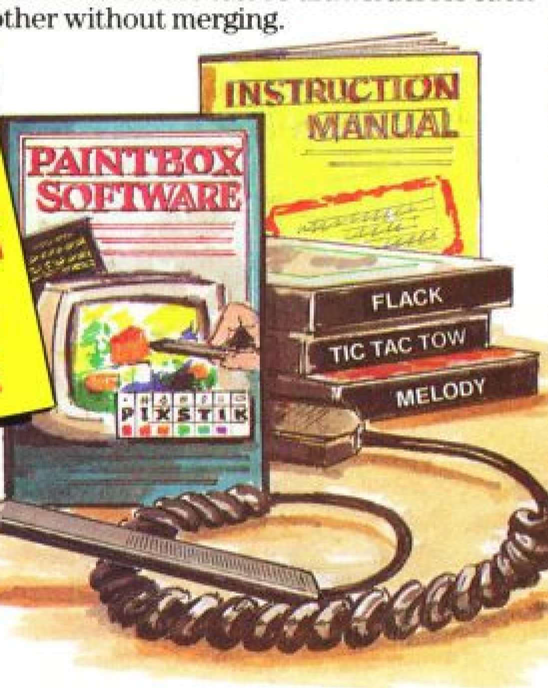


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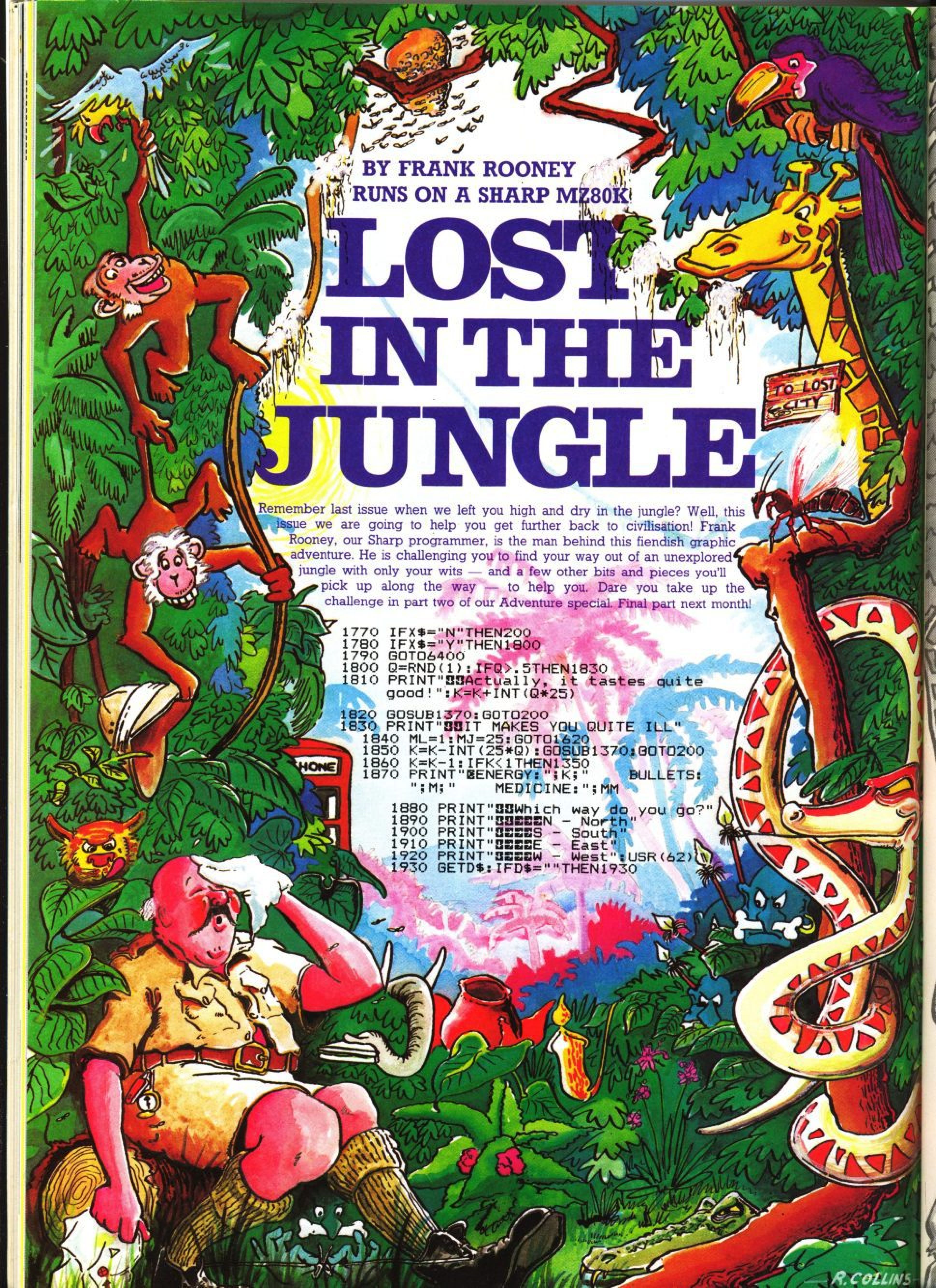
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CVG 2



BY FRANK ROONEY
RUNS ON A SHARP MZ80K

LOST IN THE JUNGLE

Remember last issue when we left you high and dry in the jungle? Well, this issue we are going to help you get further back to civilisation! Frank Rooney, our Sharp programmer, is the man behind this fiendish graphic adventure. He is challenging you to find your way out of an unexplored jungle with only your wits — and a few other bits and pieces you'll pick up along the way — to help you. Dare you take up the challenge in part two of our Adventure special. Final part next month!

```
1770 IFX$="N"THEN200
1780 IFX$="Y"THEN1800
1790 GOTO6400
1800 Q=RND(1):IFQ>.5THEN1830
1810 PRINT"■■Actually, it tastes quite
     good!":K=K+INT(Q*25)
1820 GOSUB1370:GOTO200
1830 PRINT"■■IT MAKES YOU QUITE ILL"
1840 ML=1:MJ=25:GOTO1620
1850 K=K-INT(25*Q):GOSUB1370:GOTO200
1860 K=K-1:IFK<1THEN1350
1870 PRINT"■ENERGY:";K;"     BULLETS:
     ";M;"     MEDICINE:";MM
1880 PRINT"■■Which way do you go?"
1890 PRINT"■■■■■N - North"
1900 PRINT"■■■■S - South"
1910 PRINT"■■■■E - East"
1920 PRINT"■■■■W - West":USR(62)
1930 GETD$:IFD$=""THEN1930
```

```
1940 IFD$="N"THENX$="S":F=F-1:G=G+1:GOTO1990
1950 IFD$="S"THENX$="N":F=F+1:G=G-1:GOTO1990
1960 IFD$="E"THENX$="W":H=H-1:I=I+1:GOTO1990
1970 IFD$="W"THENX$="E":H=H+1:I=I-1:GOTO1990
1980 GOTO1930
1990 IF(F=0)+(G=0)+(H=0)+(I=0)THEN2030
2000 IFK<5THEN1350
2010 IF(F<5)+(G<5)+(H<5)+(I<5)THEN2070
2020 RETURN
2030 PRINT"■■■■WELL DONE !!"
2040 MT$="GOAB‾C‾D‾E‾#F‾GRO"
2050 TEMPO5:MUSICMT$;MT$;MT$
2060 PRINT"■You made it back to civilization!":GOSUB5310:GOTO7250
2070 PRINT"■You can see sunlight through the tree":PRINT"■tops."
2080 GOSUB4780:RETURN
2090 Q=INT(RND(1)*4)+1:IFQ=1THENDD$="yellow fever"
2100 IFQ=2THENDD$="malaria"
2110 IFQ=3THENDD$="typhoid"
2120 IFQ=4THENDD$="cholera"
2130 PRINT"■Oh dear!":PRINTTAB(10);"■You have caught ";DD$;".":GOSUB5140
2140 PRINT"■What are you going to do?          "
2150 PRINT"■■■■■A - Wait & see if it goes away"
2160 PRINT"■■■■B - Take a bottle of medicine"
2170 PRINT"■■■■C - Wait for a friendly Witch Doctor"
2180 PRINT"■■■■■■■to come along"
2190 PRINT"■■■■D - Try to continue through the":PRINT"■■■■■■■jungle":USR(62)
2200 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN2200
2210 IFX$="C"THENPRINT"■There are no friendly Witch Doctors in"
2220 IFX$="C"THENPRINT"this jungle!":GOSUB1370:GOTO2390
2230 IFX$="D"THEN1350
2240 IFX$="A"THEN2320
2250 IFX$="B"THEN2270
2260 GOTO2200
2270 IFMM=0THEN2310
2280 MM=MM-1:PRINT"■■The medicine has cured you!":GOSUB5220:GOSUB1370
2290 K=K-10:IFK<2THEN2380
2300 GOTO200
2310 PRINT"■You have no medicine left!"
2320 Q4=RND(1):IFQ4<.5THEN2340
2330 GOTO2390
2340 Q2=INT(RND(1)*5)+2:PRINT"■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■You have been ill for";Q2;
2350 PRINT" weeks, but":PRINT"you are better now.":GOSUB5220:GOSUB1370
2360 K=K-INT(Q4*100):IFK<2THEN2380
2370 GOTO200
2380 PRINT"■However, the ";DD$;" has left you so":PRINT"■weak-":GOTO1350
2390 PRINT"■You died of ";DD$;".":GOSUB5230:GOSUB1370:GOTO7050
2400 PRINT"■It has been raining very hard for":PRINT"several days.":TM=0
2410 M$="     ■■■■■■■■      "+CHR$(103)+"■■■■■■■■"
2420 PRINT"■■You come to a river containing piranhas!■"
2430 GOSUB1370:PRINT"■You can't go back because the ground"
2440 PRINT"behind you has been turned to quicksand.■":GOSUB1370:GOSUB5730
2450 PRINT"■■■What do you do?"
2460 PRINT"■■■■■A - Build a boat (which takes":PRINT"■■■■■■■a lot of energy)"
2470 PRINT"■■■■B - Take a chance and swim":USR(62)
2480 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN2480
2490 IFX$="A"THEN2520
2500 IFX$="B"THEN2610
2510 GOTO2480
2520 IFK<22THENPRINT"■You haven't enough energy to build a":PRINT"■boat!"
2530 IFK<22THENPRINT"■You'll have to swim!":GOSUB1370:GOTO2610
2540 K=K-20:IFK<2THENPRINT"■You have used up all your energy"
2550 IFK<2THENPRINT"■building the boat!":GOSUB1370:GOTO1350
2560 Q=RND(1):IFQ>.85THEN2590
2570 GOSUB5860
2580 PRINT"■■You made it across the river!":GOSUB1370:GOTO200
2590 PRINT"■Your boat was not strong enough!":PRINT"■IT HAS SUNK!!"
2600 TM=1:GOSUB1370:GOSUB5860
2610 PRINT"■■■SPLASH!!"
2620 TEMPO7:MUSIC"‾GO‾#F‾E‾D‾CBAG#FEDC_B_A_G"
2630 IFK<6THENPRINT"■■You haven't the energy to swim!":GOTO2670
2640 K=K-5:Q=RND(1):IFQ=<.6THEN2670
2650 GOSUB6050
2660 PRINT"■■■You were lucky to eascape the piranhas!":GOSUB1370:GOTO200
2670 GOSUB6130
2680 PRINT"■■Oh dear - a piranha got you!":GOSUB1370:GOTO7050
2690 JK=0:PRINT"■You are hungry and you see some coconuts"
2700 PRINT"high up in a tree.":GOSUB4220
2710 PRINT"■■■■■■What do you do?     "
2720 PRINT"■■A - Try to shoot them down"
2730 PRINT"■B - Use your slingshot"
2740 PRINT"■C - Throw your knife at them"
2750 PRINT"■D - Grumble, then go on":PRINT"■■■■your way■":USR(62)
2760 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN2760
2770 IFX$="D"THEN200
2780 IFX$="B"THEN2820
2790 IFX$="A"THEN2960
2800 IFX$="C"THEN2930
2810 GOTO2760
2820 IFSS=0THENPRINT"■■■■■You have lost your slingshot - remember?■"
```

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Jogger Guide your joggers across a 4-lane motorway and crocodile infested river to reach their safe haven through the gap in the fence. Each time a jogger is safely home the next one will have to encounter more lorries and cars on the motorway but fewer crocodiles and logs in the river. Full on-screen instructions. M/code, sound effects and full action colour graphics.
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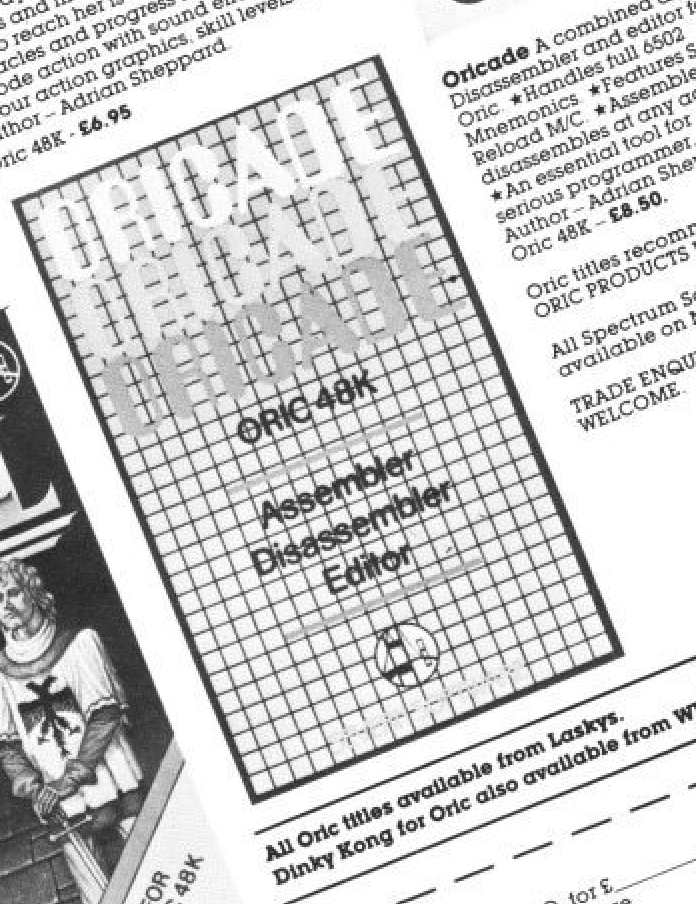
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Spectrum Author – Mike Howard
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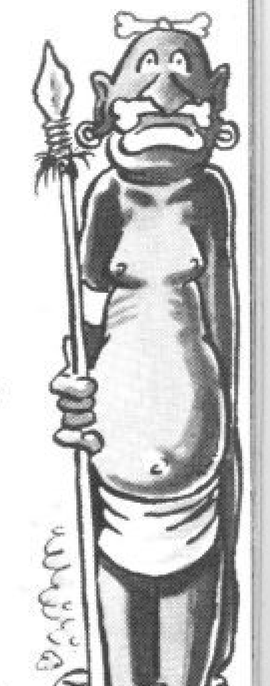
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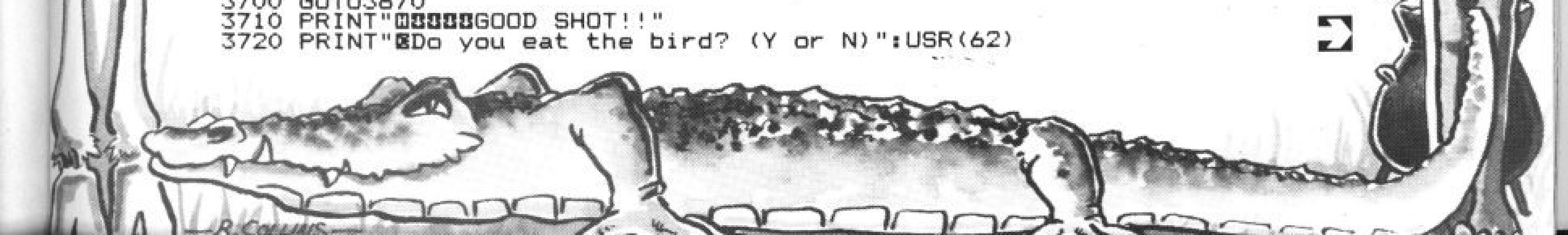
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```
2830 IFSS=0THEN3080
2840 FORR7=1TO20:FORR8=150TO1STEP-1:POKE4514,R7:POKE4513,R8:USR(68):NEXT
2850 USR(71):Q=RND(1):IFQ>.5THENPRINT"■■■■■YOU MISSED!":K=K-1:GOTO3080
2860 PRINT"■■■■■GOOD SHOT!!":Q6=INT(RND(1)*5)+2
2870 PRINT"■";Q6;" coconuts have fallen.":GOSUB1370:GOSUB4440
2880 PRINT"■■Do you eat them? (Y or N)":USR(62)
2890 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN2890
2900 IFX$="Y"THENK=K+5*Q6:GOTO200
2910 IFX$="N"THEN200
2920 GOTO2890
2930 IFKK=0THENPRINT"■■■■■You lost your knife, remember ?":GOTO3080
2940 PRINT"■■■■■You missed - and you have lost your"
2950 PRINT"■knife in the undergrowth!":KK=0:GOSUB1370:GOTO200
2960 IFM=0THENPRINT"■■■■■You have no bullets left!":GOTO3080
2970 PRINT"■■■■■BANG!!!":M=M-1:GOSUB6310
2980 Q7=RND(1):IFQ7<.25THENPRINT"■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■YOU MISSED!":GOTO3080
2990 IFQ7>.85THEN3010
3000 GOTO3070
3010 PRINT"■You have shot a monkey by mistake!":GOSUB1370
3020 PRINT"■■Do you eat it? (Y or N)":USR(62)
3030 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN3030
3040 IFX$="Y"THENK=K+35:GOTO200
3050 IFX$="N"THENGOTO200
3060 GOTO3030
3070 PRINT"■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■GOOD SHOT!!":Q6=INT(RND(1)*3)+2:GOTO2870
3080 GOSUB1370:PRINT"■■■":JK=1:JJ=30:GOSUB4220:GOTO2710
3090 PRINT"■You are hungry and you see a bird flyingoverhead."
3100 PRINT"■■What do you do?"
3110 PRINT"■■■■■A - Shoot it"
3120 PRINT"■■■■B - Use your slingshot"
3130 PRINT"■■■■C - Throw your knife at it"
3140 PRINT"■■■■D - Ignore it":USR(62)
3150 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN3150
3160 IFX$="D"THEN200
3170 IFX$="C"THEN3210
3180 IFX$="B"THEN3240
3190 IFX$="A"THEN3270
3200 GOTO3150
3210 IFKK=0THENPRINT"■■You lost your knife - remember?":GOTO3260
3220 PRINT"■■You missed the bird - and your knife is"
3230 PRINT"■lost in the undergrowth!":KK=0:GOSUB1370:GOTO200
3240 IFSS=0THENPRINT"■■You lost your slingshot - remember?":GOTO3260
3250 PRINT"■■The bird is too high up to use a":PRINT"■slingshot."
3260 GOSUB1370:PRINT"■Now what do you do?":GOTO3110
3270 IFM=0THENPRINT"■■You are out of bullets!":GOTO3260
3280 PK=53841:PB=219:PC=0:CC=0
3290 PRINT"■":POKE4466,22
3300 PRINT"■────────────────────────────────────■"
3310 POKE4466,16:PRINTTAB(35);"■\"
3320 PRINTTAB(36);"\■":PRINTTAB(36);"■■"
3330 PRINTTAB(37);"■":PRINTTAB(37);"||":PRINTTAB(37);"||"
3340 PRINTTAB(10);"■Press 'SPACE' to fire.":GOSUB1370
3350 PRINT"■■-                                      -":GOSUB40
3360 PRINT"■■.-                                    --":GOSUB40
3370 PRINT"■■\.-                                  ---":GOSUB40
3380 PRINT"■■-\.-                                ----":GOSUB40
3390 PRINT"■■ -\.-                              -----":GOSUB40
3400 PRINT"■■ --\._                             -----":GOSUB40
3410 BB$="■■ --\._■■■■■■■ -----"
3420 BC$="■■ --\._■■■■■■■ -----"
3430 XX=1
3440 PRINTTAB(XX);BB$:GOSUB40:PRINTTAB(XX);BC$:GOSUB40
3450 IFXX=33THEN3470
3460 XX=XX+1:GOTO3440
3470 PRINTT2$;"■■■ --\.":GOSUB40
3480 PRINTT2$;"■ -----"
3490 PRINTT2$;"■■■ --\":GOSUB40
3500 PRINTT2$;"■ ----"
3510 PRINTT2$;"■■■ --":GOSUB40
3520 PRINTT2$;"■ ---"
3530 PRINTT2$;"■■■ -":GOSUB40
3540 PRINTT2$;"■ -"
3550 PRINTT2$;"■■■ ":GOSUB40
3560 PRINTT2$;"■ "
3570 PRINT"■■■■■■■■YOU MISSED YOUR CHANCE!":GOSUB1370:GOTO200
3580 LL=1:CJ=0
3590 BD$="      ■■■■■■■      ■■■■■■■ --\._■■■■■■■ -----■■■■■■■      "
3600 PK=53841:CC=0:PB=240
3610 POKEPK,PB:PK=PK-82:CC=CC+1:IFCC=7THEN3630
3620 GOTO3610
3630 POKE4466,14:PRINTTAB(35);" ":PRINTTAB(36);" "
3640 PRINTTAB(36);"r"
3650 PRINTTAB(36);"/":PRINTTAB(35);"/"
3660 PRINT"■";TAB(16);"                   ":PRINTTAB(16);"              "
3670 POKE4466,LL
3680 PRINTTAB(17);BD$
3690 LL=LL+2:IFLL=19THEN3710
3700 GOTO3670
3710 PRINT"■■■■■GOOD SHOT!!"
3720 PRINT"■Do you eat the bird? (Y or N)":USR(62)
```





```
3730 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN3730
3740 IFX$="N"THEN200
3750 IFX$="Y"THENK=K+15:GOTO200
3760 GOTO3730
3770 PRINT"■You come face to face with a snake!":SP=15:SN$=CHR$(105)
3780 SL$="■■■■■■■■■■"
3790 PRINTSL$;"■────────────────────────────────────────"
3800 PRINTSL$;TAB(SP);" ";B$;" ":IFSP=30THEN3820
3810 SP=SP+1:GOTO3800
3820 PRINTSL$;TAB(SP);" ";B$;"      ";SN$;" "
3830 PRINT"■■■You turn away - but it comes after you.":SP=SP-1
3840 IFSP=1THEN3860
3850 GOTO3820
3860 PRINT"■■■■■■■■■What do you do now?":PRINT"■■■■A - Shoot it"
3870 PRINT"■■■■B - Use your knife"
3880 PRINT"■■■■C - Try to hit it with a log":USR(62)
3890 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN3890
3900 IFX$="A"THEN3940
3910 IFX$="B"THEN4100
3920 IFX$="C"THEN4110
3930 GOTO3890
3940 IFM=0THENPRINT"■■You have no bullets left!":GOSUB1370:GOTO4210
3950 POKE4466,11:FORZ=1TO8:PRINTSPC(39):NEXTZ:PRINT"■■■■■■■BANG !!"
3960 GOSUB6310:M=M-1:Q=RND(1):IFQ<.75THEN4020
3970 PRINT"■MISSED!"
3980 PRINT"■However, the snake ran away frightened.":ST=7
3990 PRINTSL$;TAB(ST);"   ";SN$
4000 IFST=35THENGOSUB1370:GOTO200
4010 ST=ST+2:GOTO3990
4020 PRINT"■GOOD SHOT!"
4030 PRINTSL$;"    ";B$;TAB(7);" * ":FORZ=1TO50:NEXTZ
4040 PRINT"■";TAB(8);"~_"
4050 PRINT"■■■■■■YOU KILLED IT!"
4060 GOSUB1370:PRINT"■■Do you eat it?":USR(62)
4070 GETX$:IFX$=""THEN4070
4080 IFX$="N"THEN200
4090 IFX$="Y"THENK=K+10:GOTO200
4100 IFKK=0THENPRINT"■■You lost your knife - remember?":GOSUB1370:GOTO4210
4110 POKE4466,11:FORZ=1TO8:PRINTSPC(38):NEXTZ
4120 Q=RND(1):SZ=2
4130 PRINTSL$;TAB(8);SN$;" "
4140 IFQ>.8THEN4180
4150 PRINTSL$;TAB(SZ);" ";B$
4160 IFSZ=5THENPRINT"■";TAB(7);"~_":GOTO4050
4170 SZ=SZ+1:GOTO4150
4180 PRINT"■■■You were too slow -":PRINT"■IT GOT YOU!":GOSUB1370
4190 PRINTSL$;"    ";B$;SN$;"    ":FORZ=1TO100:NEXTZ
4200 PRINT"■";TAB(3);CHR$(100):GOSUB1370:GOTO7050
4210 POKE4466,20:FORZ=1TO3:PRINTSPC(39):NEXTZ:PRINT"■■■":GOTO3860
4220 PRINT"■";TAB(27);"■■■     ~~^~~"
4230 PRINTTAB(27);"  ╭^^^ ╮"
4240 PRINTTAB(27);" ╭╭╭^^╮╮╮"
4250 PRINTTAB(27);" ╰╰╰╱╲╲╲╲ "
4260 PRINTTAB(27);"    oo||oo    "
4270 PRINTTAB(27);"     o||o     "
4280 PRINTTAB(27);"      \\      "
4290 PRINTTAB(27);"       \\     "
4300 PRINTTAB(27);"       \\     "
4310 PRINTTAB(27);"        ||     "
4320 PRINTTAB(27);"        ||     "
4330 PRINTTAB(27);"        ||     "
4340 PRINTTAB(27);"        //     "
4350 PRINTTAB(27);"        \\     "
4360 PRINTTAB(27);"         \\    "
4370 PRINTTAB(27);"          \\   "
4380 PRINT"────────────────────────────────────────"
4390 IFJK=1THENPRINT"■■■":GOTO4410
4400 JJ=1:PRINT"■■■"
4410 PRINT"■";TAB(JJ);" ";B$
4420 IFJJ=30THENRETURN
4430 JJ=JJ+1:GOTO4410
4440 UU=9:Q=RND(1):IFQ>.75THENWW=31:GOTO4460
4450 WW=32
4460 POKE4466,UU:PRINTTAB(WW);"o"
4470 POKE4466,UU-1:PRINTTAB(WW);" "
4480 IFUU=18THENMUSIC"_B1":GOTO4500
4490 UU=UU+1:GOTO4460
4500 IFQ>.75THENPRINT"■■A COCONUT HIT YOU ON THE HEAD!!!"
4510 IFQ>.75THENPRINT"■";SPC(35):GOSUB1370:GOTO7050
4520 RETURN
4530 POKE4466,22:PRINTTAB(20);"~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~"
4540 POKE4466,16:Q$(1)=T1$+"                    "
4550 Q$(2)=T1$+"<       ▲▲▲      >"
4560 Q$(3)=T1$+" \     |°ω°|    / "
4570 Q$(4)=T1$+"   \    \_/   /   "
4580 Q$(5)=T1$+"     \_/¥\_/      "
4590 Q$(6)=T1$+"      / : \       "
4600 FORZ=1TO6:PRINTQ$(Z):NEXTZ:RETURN
4610 FORYU=16TO21:POKE4466,YU:FORZ=1TO22-YU:PRINTQ$(Z):NEXTZ
4620 NEXTYU:RETURN
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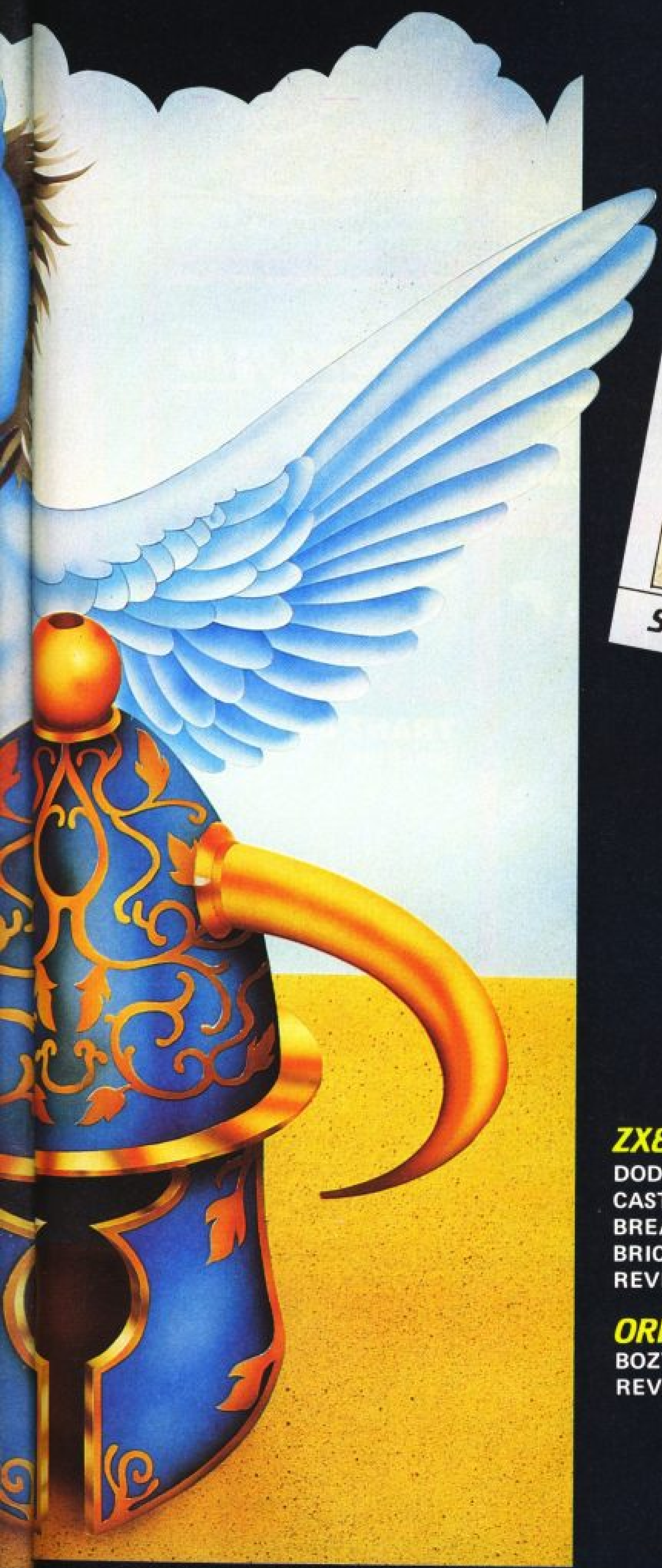




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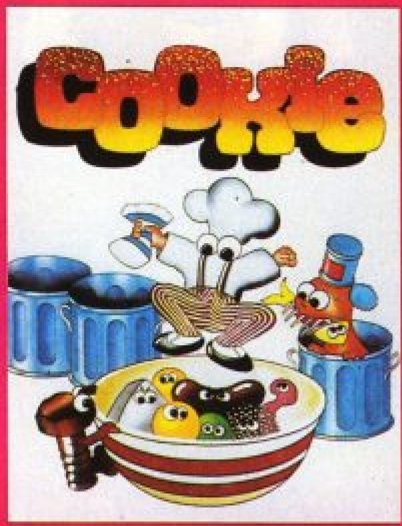
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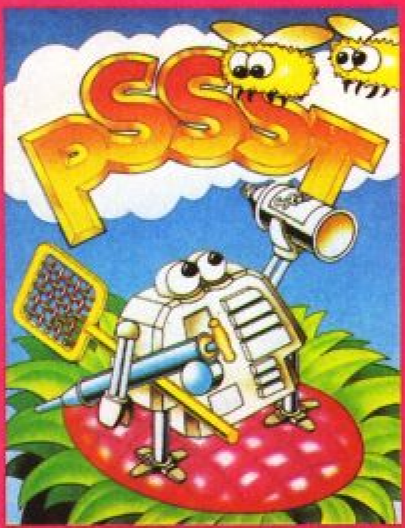
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THE BUGS
WE'RE DONE FOR! EVERY TIME HE USES THE DE BUGGING CARTRIDGE HE'S GOT US BEAT!... ..BUG BEATEN! WHIMPER!
IF ONLY WE COULD GET AT THE CARTRIDGE.
SOB! THE DISGRACE!
SHUDDER!
SINCE OUR PROGRAMMER DISCOVERED THE DE-BUGGING CARTRIDGE ..... LIFE HAS BEEN HELL FOR THE BUGS
HUH! HE'S TOO CAGEY TO LEAVE IT LYING ABOUT. HE'S LOCKING IT IN HIS ULTRA MODERN, PICKPROOF SAFE!
WELL, THAT'S IT! UNLESS SOMEONE ROBS THE SAFE WE MAY AS WELL LEAVE THE MICRO!
SUDDENLY!!
AHEM! I THINK I CAN HELP YOU
IT'S BUG BANDIT!
THAT EVENING.
HEE! HEE! MY SUPER, NEW COMPUTERISED, LOCKING SAFE WILL KEEP THOSE MEDDLING BUGS AT BAY!
..MUCH LATER..
A STEALTHY FIGURE STEALS INTO THE NIGHT.
GOOD LUCK BUG BANDIT!
COMPUTER LOCK
FIDDLE! ADJUST! TWIDDLE!
SNIGGER! EASY PEASY! I'M MUCH BETTER AT BREAKING INTO SAFES!
THE NEXT DAY.
TAPPITY! TAP!
OH WHAT A WONDERFUL DAY! I SHALL GIVE THE BUGS A BIT OF AGGRO.. FOR A CHANGE. ILL JUST TAP OUT THE COMBINATION AND..
HUH!
JUDDER!
BASH! THUMP! BAM!
SOB! I'VE BEEN BUGGED AGAIN!
AHEM!.. AND I ESTIMATE HE HAS A ONE IN ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY THREE MILLION CHANCE OF WORKING OUT THE NEW COMBINATION
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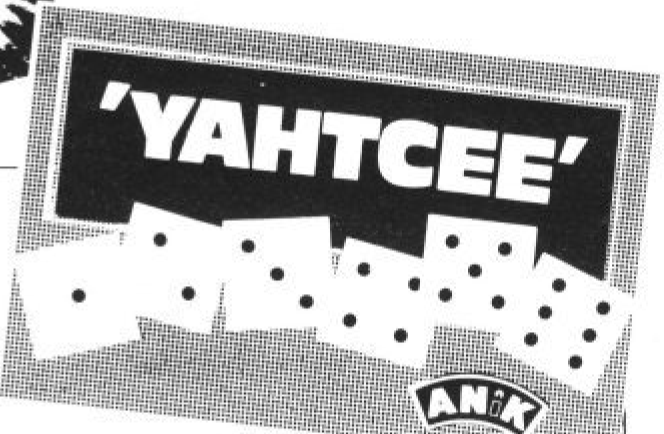
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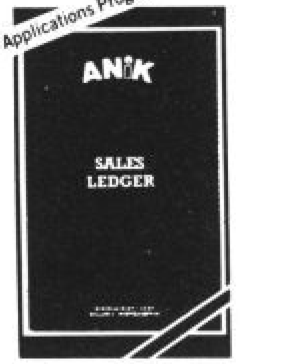
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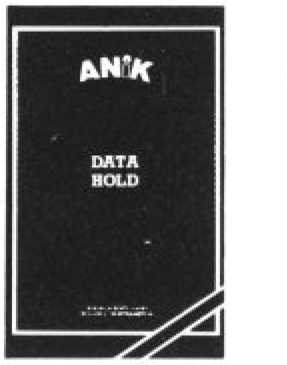
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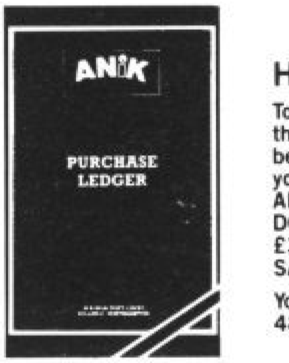
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Quicksilva's highly rated game for the Dragon 32.

ARCADIA

One of the best selling games around from Imagine. You can enter on the Spectrum or Vic versions — but don't forget to tell us which?

JET-PAC

The game that made Ultimate a top name in the world of games software overnight and which is rapidly becoming a cult game. For the Spectrum and Vic.

DIAMOND

English Software have high hopes for this mining game and are even offering a diamond as a prize! For the Atari owner.

KRAZY KONG

The best version of Donkey Kong we've seen for the Vic. From Anirog.

VIOLENT UNIVERSE

From Quest, the company who have developed a high score verification system for their Spectrum games.

MANIC MINER

Sheer addiction for the Spectrum from the Bug Byte people.

SPLAT

Help Zippy survive in this extremely playable game from new games company Incentive Software.

ZALAGA

Space age action from Ardvark for the BBC.

ATIC ATAC

A great new graphic adventure-style game from Ultimate.

3D DEFENDER

Malcolm Evans' game for New Generation Software which set new standards for graphics on the ZX81.

(On Violent Universe, please send your high scores direct to Quest at the address on the cassette inlay and NOT to *C&VG*. Quest have their own way to verify scores.)

JET PAC

1) Stephen Flavell, Wolverhampton — 8,283,975
2) J. Denning, Amersham, Bucks — 4,918,595
3) Roger Sayle, Folkestone, — 4,568,945
4) Robert Golding, Hornchurch — 4,185,720
5) Jamie Hickman, Northampton, — 4,118,890

MANIC MINER

1) Julian Rignall, Dyfed, Wales, — 2,000,923
2) Stephen Lynch, Wallasey, Merseyside, — 1,763,590
3) A. Pritchard, Newark, Notts — 1,150,723
4) Martin Leach, Orpington, Kent, — 1,006,350
5) Grant Harrison, Sidcup, Kent, — 716,225

PARSEC

1) C. Sutton, Stoke on Trent, — 1,588,300
2) Simon Taylor, Cambridge, — 1,358,700
3) Marc Watson, Bristol, — 1,252,100
4) Peter Turner, Sheffield, — 1,222,700
5) Michael Tyrie, Whitely Bay, — 1,119,000

KRAZY KONG

1) Phillip Waterhouse, Bury, — 244,040
2) Andrew Chader, Nottingham, 172,740
3) Shane Moss, Colchester, 167,513
4) Matthew Brown, Exeter, 153,580
5) N. Sharp, Penrith, 128,620

PLANETOIDS

1) Paul Dhonan, Reigate, Surrey, — 696,200
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You can spot *Computer and Video Games* **Hall of Fame** cassettes in your local computer store because we've had some special stickers printed which the software companies are sticking on to our *C&VG* approved games.

So if you are looking for a value-for-money game that will keep its challenge, stay fresh and challenging as the day you first loaded it into your micro for months and months, check out those tapes with a *C&VG* sticker about their person first!

Meanwhile, if you think you qualify as a top scorer on one of our **Hall of Fame** Games — listed elsewhere on this page — then fill in our **Hall of Fame** coupon, get it signed by a witness and stick it on a postcard. Then all you have to do is mail it to **Hall of Fame**, *Computer and Video Games*, Durrant House, 8 Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5EJ.

In the New Year we'll invite some of the best top scorers along to a grand finals to prove their skills in the spotlight. In the meantime we'll be printing the top five scorers in our **Hall of Fame** selection each issue.

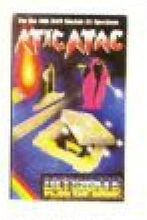
And each month we've got a *C&VG* "The Champ" t-shirt to give away to the top scorer on each game featured on this page. Your score doesn't have to be better than the one we printed the issue before — it simply has to be the highest we've received in time for our current issue's deadline.

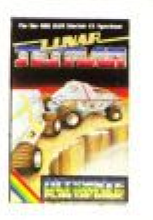
We'd also like to hear from you if your favourite game isn't included in the **Hall of Fame** line-up. Maybe you'll persuade us to squeeze it in!

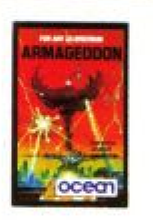
C&VG's HALL OF FAME

Name ....
Address ....
Tel: .... I scored ....
Game ....
It took me (approx.) ....
Witness's name ....

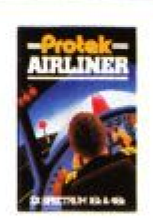
HALL OF FAME

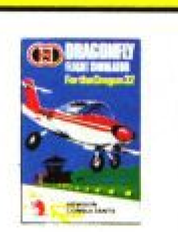

Order Code: 15040 **Atic Atac £5.50** (Arcade Adventure) (48K) Joystick option. Spectrum

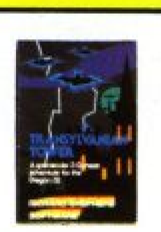

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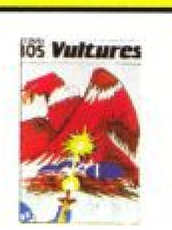

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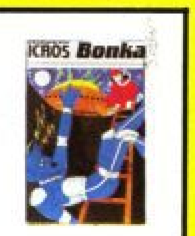

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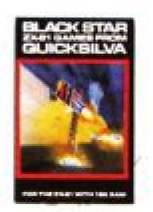

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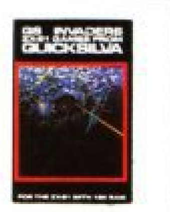

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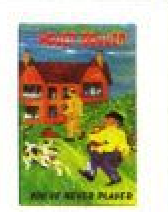

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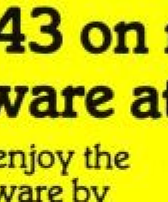
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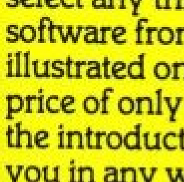

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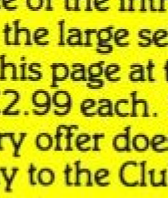

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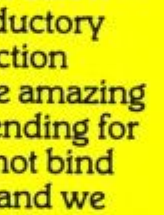

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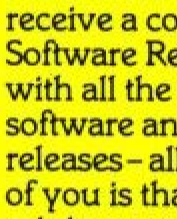

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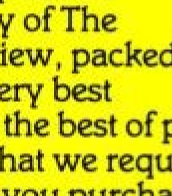

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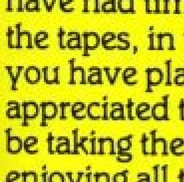

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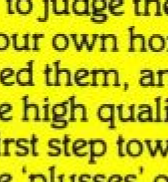

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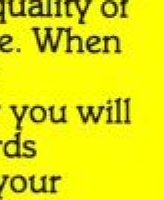

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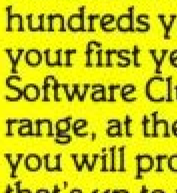

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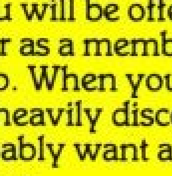
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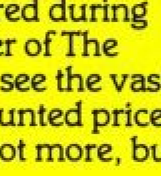

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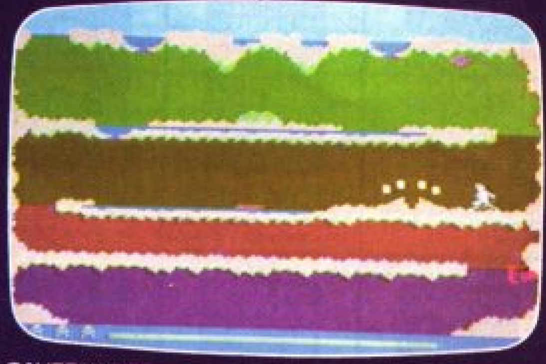
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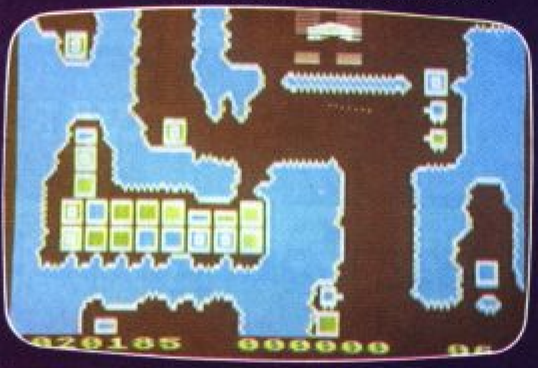
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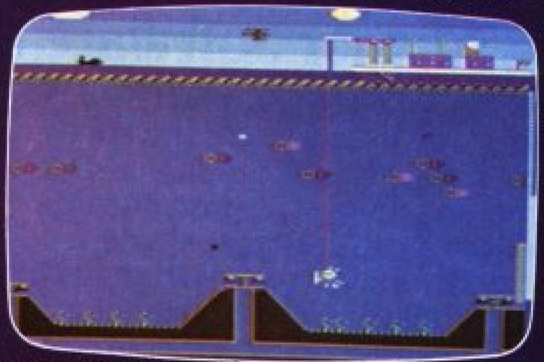
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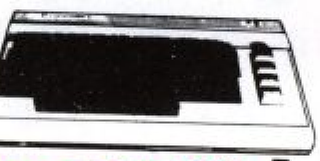
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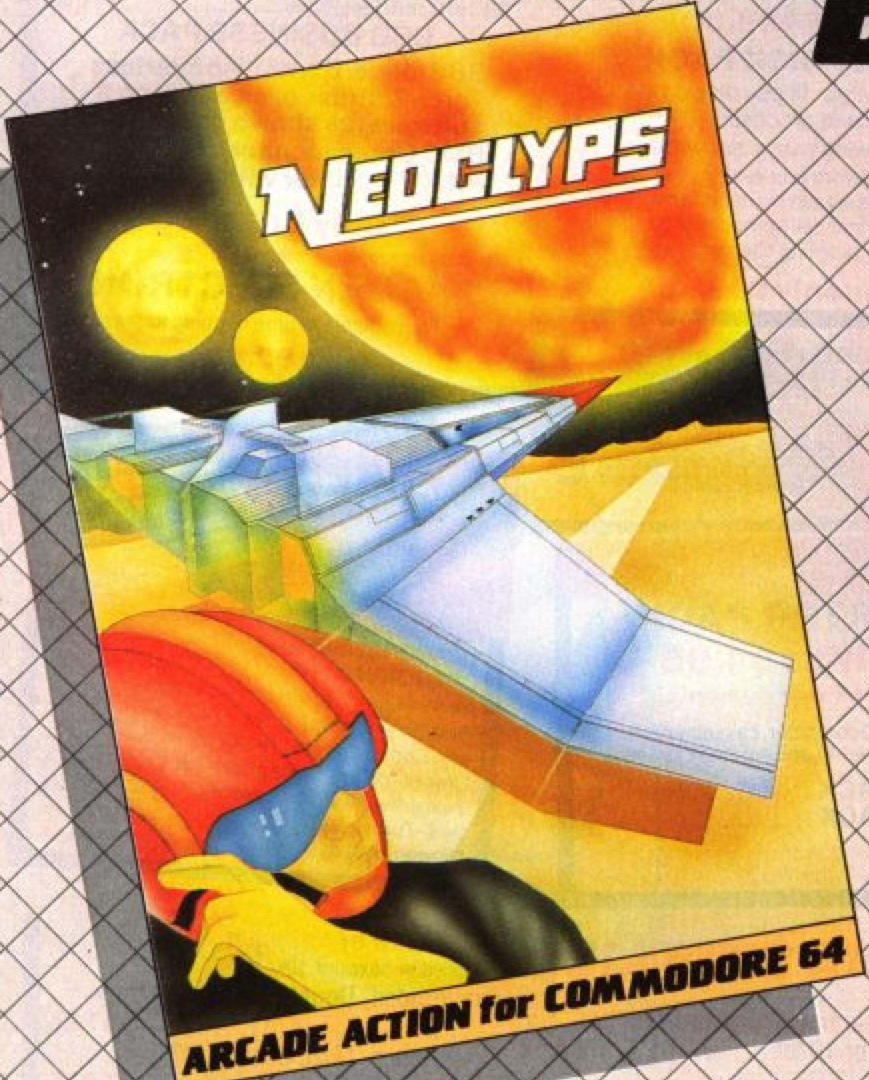
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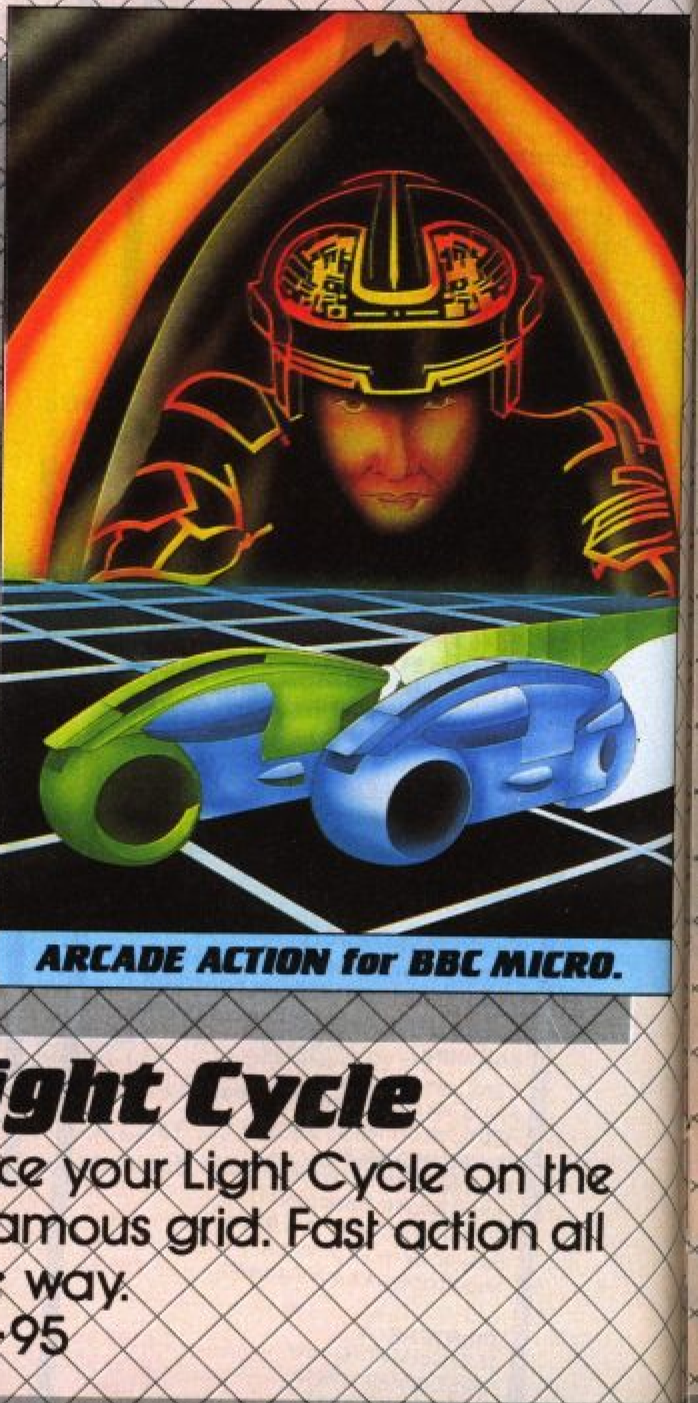
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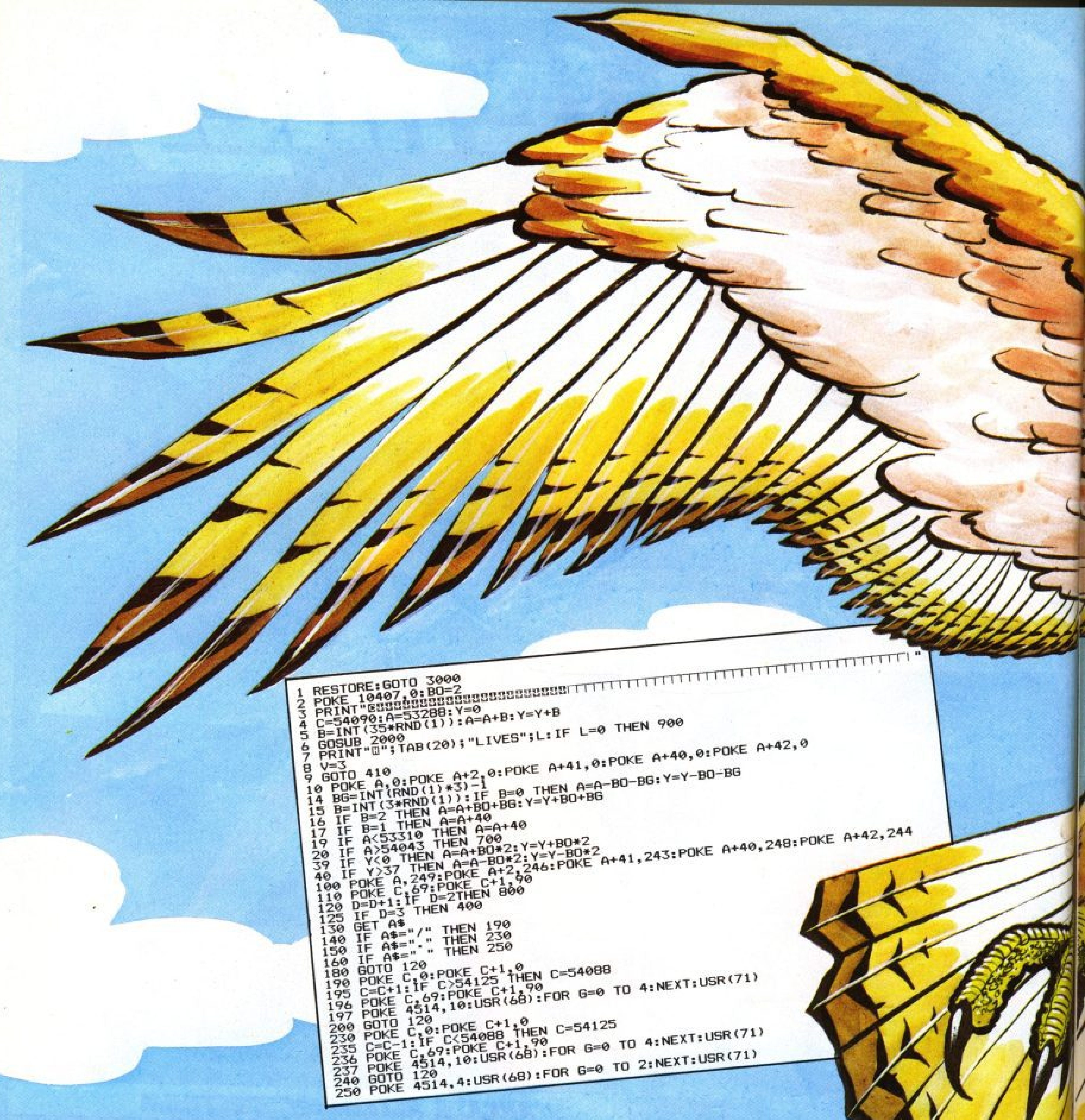
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```
1 RESTORE:GOTO 3000
2 POKE 10407,0:BO=2
3 PRINT"▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒▒TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT"
4 C=54090:A=53288:Y=0
5 B=INT(35*RND(1)):A=A+B:Y=Y+B
6 GOSUB 2000
7 PRINT"▒";TAB(20);"LIVES";L:IF L=0 THEN 900
8 V=3
9 GOTO 410
10 POKE A,0:POKE A+2,0:POKE A+41,0:POKE A+40,0:POKE A+42,0
14 BG=INT(RND(1)*3)-1
15 B=INT(3*RND(1)):IF B=0 THEN A=A-BO-BG:Y=Y-BO-BG
16 IF B=2 THEN A=A+BO+BG:Y=Y+BO+BG
17 IF B=1 THEN A=A+40
19 IF A<53310 THEN A=A+40
20 IF A>54043 THEN 700
39 IF Y<0 THEN A=A+BO*2:Y=Y+BO*2
40 IF Y>37 THEN A=A-BO*2:Y=Y-BO*2
100 POKE A,249:POKE A+2,246:POKE A+41,243:POKE A+40,248:POKE A+42,244
110 POKE C,69:POKE C+1,90
120 D=D+1:IF D=2THEN 800
125 IF D=3 THEN 400
130 GET A$
140 IF A$="/" THEN 190
150 IF A$="." THEN 230
160 IF A$=" " THEN 250
180 GOTO 120
190 POKE C,0:POKE C+1,0
195 C=C+1:IF C>54125 THEN C=54088
196 POKE C,69:POKE C+1,90
197 POKE 4514,10:USR(68):FOR G=0 TO 4:NEXT:USR(71)
200 GOTO 120
230 POKE C,0:POKE C+1,0
235 C=C-1:IF C<54088 THEN C=54125
236 POKE C,69:POKE C+1,90
237 POKE 4514,10:USR(68):FOR G=0 TO 4:NEXT:USR(71)
240 GOTO 120
250 POKE 4514,4:USR(68):FOR G=0 TO 2:NEXT:USR(71)
```

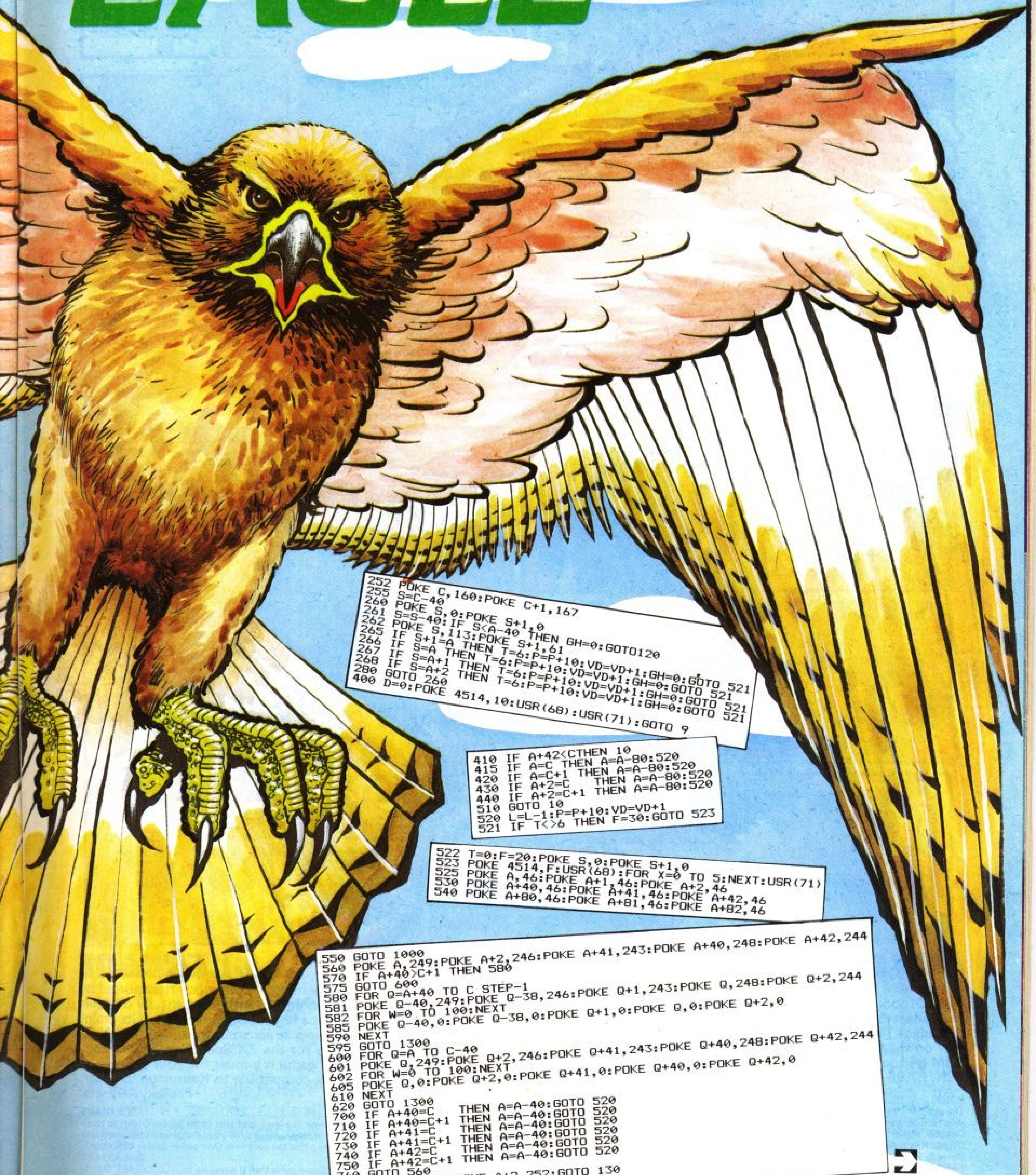
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Illustration: Terry Rogers

EAGLE



```
252 POKE C,160:POKE C+1,167
255 S=C-40
260 POKE S,0:POKE S+1,0
261 S=S-40:IF S<A-40 THEN GH=0:GOTO120
262 POKE S,113:POKE S+1,61
265 IF S+1=A THEN T=6:P=P+10:VD=VD+1:GH=0:GOTO 521
266 IF S=A THEN T=6:P=P+10:VD=VD+1:GH=0:GOTO 521
267 IF S=A+1 THEN T=6:P=P+10:VD=VD+1:GH=0:GOTO 521
268 IF S=A+2 THEN T=6:P=P+10:VD=VD+1:GH=0:GOTO 521
280 GOTO 260
400 D=0:POKE 4514,10:USR(68):USR(71):GOTO 9
```

```
410 IF A+42<CTHEN 10
415 IF A=C THEN A=A-80:520
420 IF A=C+1 THEN A=A-80:520
430 IF A+2=C   THEN A=A-80:520
440 IF A+2=C+1 THEN A=A-80:520
510 GOTO 10
520 L=L-1:P=P+10:VD=VD+1
521 IF T<>6 THEN F=30:GOTO 523
```

```
522 T=0:F=20:POKE S,0:POKE S+1,0
523 POKE 4514,F:USR(68):FOR X=0 TO 5:NEXT:USR(71)
525 POKE A,46:POKE A+1,46:POKE A+2,46
530 POKE A+40,46:POKE A+41,46:POKE A+42,46
540 POKE A+80,46:POKE A+81,46:POKE A+82,46
```

```
550 GOTO 1000
560 POKE A,249:POKE A+2,246:POKE A+41,243:POKE A+40,248:POKE A+42,244
570 IF A+40>C+1 THEN 580
575 GOTO 600
580 FOR Q=A+40 TO C STEP-1
581 POKE Q-40,249:POKE Q-38,246:POKE Q+1,243:POKE Q,248:POKE Q+2,244
582 FOR W=0 TO 100:NEXT
585 POKE Q-40,0:POKE Q-38,0:POKE Q+1,0:POKE Q,0:POKE Q+2,0
590 NEXT
595 GOTO 1300
600 FOR Q=A TO C-40
601 POKE Q,249:POKE Q+2,246:POKE Q+41,243:POKE Q+40,248:POKE Q+42,244
602 FOR W=0 TO 100:NEXT
605 POKE Q,0:POKE Q+2,0:POKE Q+41,0:POKE Q+40,0:POKE Q+42,0
610 NEXT
620 GOTO 1300
700 IF A+40=C   THEN A=A-40:GOTO 520
710 IF A+40=C+1 THEN A=A-40:GOTO 520
720 IF A+41=C   THEN A=A-40:GOTO 520
730 IF A+41=C+1 THEN A=A-40:GOTO 520
740 IF A+42=C   THEN A=A-40:GOTO 520
750 IF A+42=C+1 THEN A=A-40:GOTO 520
760 GOTO 560
800 POKE A,252:POKE A+2,252:GOTO 130
900 A=53500
```



UGH!

The Ice Age has come and Ugh must collect food. But stealing Pterry the Pterrodactyl's eggs may not have been the best idea! This has to be the best graphics/animation ever on the Dragon 32.....and now Ugh is available on the CBM 64 too! A smash hit! £6.95, Dragon 32 & Tandy Color 32K. £7.95, CBM 64. Joystick compatible.

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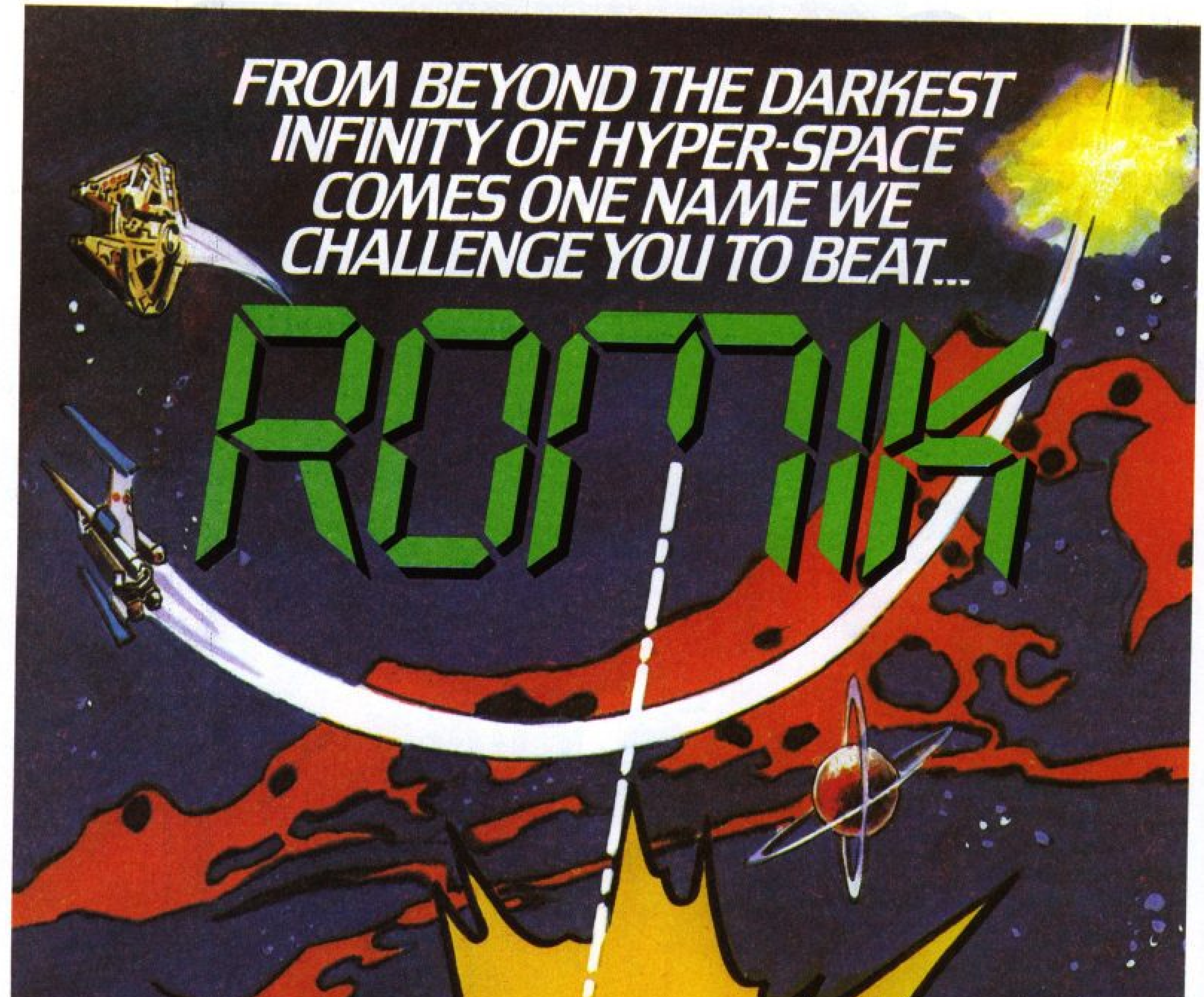
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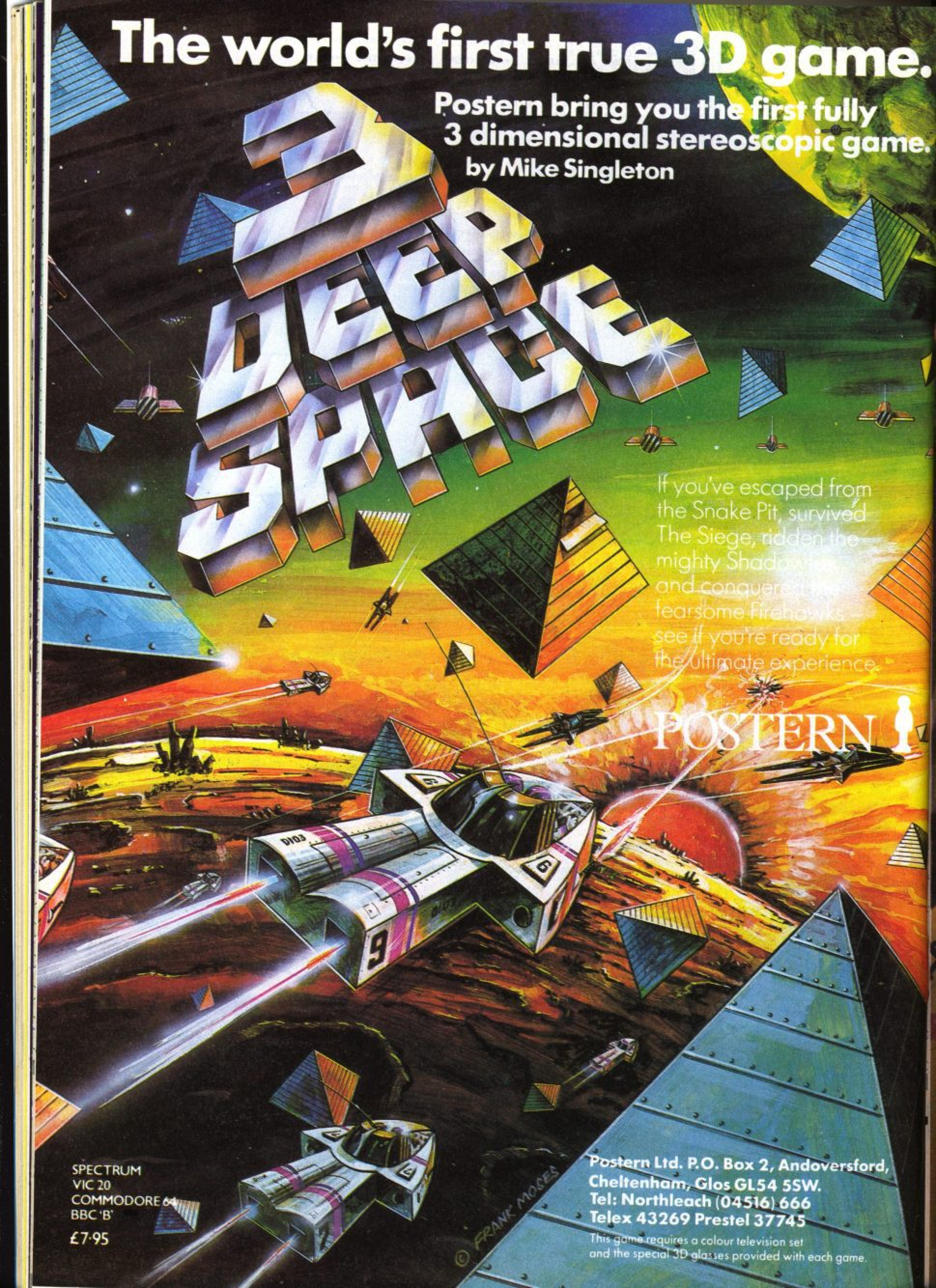
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```
910 POKE A,249:POKE A+2,246:POKE A+41,243:POKE A+40,248:POKE A+42,244
912 FOR F=0 TO 200:NEXT
915 POKE A,0:POKE A+2,0:POKE A+41,0:POKE A+40,0:POKE A+42,0
917 READ NM:POKE A,NM
919 A=A+1:IF A=53509 THEN 6000
920 GOTO 910
1000 POKE A,0:POKE A+1,0:POKE A+2,0
1010 POKE A+40,0:POKE A+41,0:POKE A+42,0
1020 POKE A+80,0:POKE A+81,0:POKE A+82,0
1030 POKE C,0
1040 POKE C+1,0
1050 IF VD=10 THEN GOSUB 3300
1100 GOTO 4
1110 FOR Q=A+39 TO C STEP-1
1120 POKE Q,0
1130 NEXT
1140 POKE A,0:POKE A+2,0:POKE A+41,0:POKE A+40,0:POKE A+42,0
1200 GOTO 4
1300 VF=0:FOR VR=C-80 TO C-560 STEP-40
1302 ER=0
1305 POKE 4514,255:USR(68)
1310 POKE VR,249:POKE VR+2,246:POKE VR+41,243:POKE VR+40,248:POKE VR+42,244
1320 POKE VR+81,202
1330 FOR ZX=0 TO 270:NEXT
1335 POKE VR,0:POKE VR+2,0:POKE VR+41,0:POKE VR+40,0:POKE VR+42,0
1337 POKE VR+81,0
1338 USR(71)
1340 NEXT
1350 FG=54090
1360 XC=INT(36*RND(1))
1370 FG=FG+XC
1380 POKE FG,69:POKE FG+1,120:POKE FG+2,90
1390 POKE VR,249:POKE VR+2,246:POKE VR+41,243:POKE VR+40,248:POKE VR+42,244
1400 POKE VR+81,INT(RND(1)*4+202)
1405 IF BO>4 THEN OB=2:GOTO 1410
1407 OB=3
1410 ER=ER+1:IF ER=OB THEN 1460
1415 POKE 4514,150:USR(68)
1420 GET E$
1430 IF E$="/" THEN 1500
1440 IF E$="." THEN 1530
1445 FOR FR=0 TO 30:NEXT
1450 GOTO 1410
1460 IF VR>FG-100 THEN 1555
1465 ER=0:POKE VR+81,0:VR=VR+40
1470 IF VR=FG-120 THEN 1580
1490 GOTO 1400
1500 POKE VR+81,0:VR=VR+1
1510 POKE VR+81,INT(RND(1)*4+202)
1515 FOR HY=0 TO 100:NEXT
1520 GOTO 1410
1530 POKE VR+81,0:VR=VR-1:GOTO 1510
1540 POKE VR+81,INT(RND(1)*4+202)
1550 USR(71)
1552 C=VR+121
1555 IF VR=FG-120 THEN 1580
1560 L=L-1
1570 POKE VR+81,0
1575 GOTO 1600
1580 TEMPO 6
1585 POKE VR+81,202
1590 MUSIC"C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0"
1595 GOTO 3
1600 POKE VR+81,107
1605 POKE 4514,200:USR(68):FOR A=0 TO 100:NEXT:USR(71)
1610 GOTO 3
2000 POKE 53248,16:POKE 53250,9:POKE 53249,15:POKE 53251,14:POKE 53252,20
2010 POKE 53253,19:PRINT"▣";TAB(6);P
2020 RETURN
3000 PRINT"▣"
3005 TEMPO 5
3010 PRINT"▣▣▣▣▣"
3020 PRINTTAB(7);"□□□ □□□ □□□ □   □□□
3030 PRINTTAB(7);"□   □ □ □   □   □
3040 PRINTTAB(7);"□□  □□□ □   □   □□
3050 PRINTTAB(7);"□   □ □ □ □ □   □
3060 PRINTTAB(7);"□□□ □ □ □□□ □□□ □□□
3065 PRINT
3070 FOR S=6 TO 26
3080 PRINT TAB(S);"□
3090 PRINT"▣▣":MUSIC"¯#B0":NEXT
3100 POKE 53853,170:POKE 53854,153
3110 FOR S=53935 TO 53954
3115 D=S-40
3120 READ C:POKE D,C+W:W=W-1:NEXT
3125 FOR F=0 TO 1500:NEXT
3127 GOSUB 5000
3130 CLR:L=3:GOTO 2
3300 BO=BO+1:VD=0:PH=PH+1
3400 PRINT"▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣PHASE";PH;" COMPLETED"
3405 TEMPO 6
3407 MUSIC"R5R5R5"
3410 MUSIC"C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0C0¯#B0"
3420 PRINT"▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣                "
3430 RETURN
5000 PRINT"▣"
5005 POKE 10407,184
5010 PRINT" Alien Eagles are attacking Earth.It is"
5020 PRINT"up to you to save us all.After every  "
5030 PRINT"ten Eagles the next ten move faster.If"
5040 PRINT"an Eagle lands on Earth,but not on you,"
5050 PRINT"it will lift and drop you.You will have"
5060 PRINT"to land on a platform or lose a life.If"
5070 PRINT"it lands on you,you will automatically"
5080 PRINT"lose a life."
5090 PRINT"▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣GOOD LUCK!!!"
5095 PRINT"▣        PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE"
5100 GET A$:IF A$="" THEN 5100
5105 PRINT"▣                                    "
5120 PRINT"SPACE - FIRE"
5130 PRINT"  .   - LEFT"
5140 PRINT"  /   - RIGHT"
5145 PRINT"▣        PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE"
5150 GET A$:IF A$="" THEN 5150
5160 RETURN
6000 REM
6010 PRINT"▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣▣YOU HIT";P/10;" EAGLES"
6020 FOR AA=1 TO 1000:NEXT
6030 PRINT"▣"
6035 A=53500
6040 POKE A,249:POKE A+2,246:POKE A+41,243:POKE A+40,248:POKE A+42,244
6042 FOR F=0 TO 200:NEXT
6045 POKE A,0:POKE A+2,0:POKE A+41,0:POKE A+40,0:POKE A+42,0
6047 READ NM:POKE A,NM
6049 A=A+1:IF A=53510 THEN 6140
6050 GOTO 6040
6140 GET A$:IF A$="Y" THEN RUN
6150 IF A$="N" THEN PRINT"▣":END
6160 GOTO 6140
9000 DATA 18,47,21,139,133,141,147,150,151,151,10,113,12,14,60,29,145,153,167
9010 DATA 160,7,1,13,5,0,15,22,5,18
9020 DATA 16,12,1,25,0,1,7,1,9,14
```


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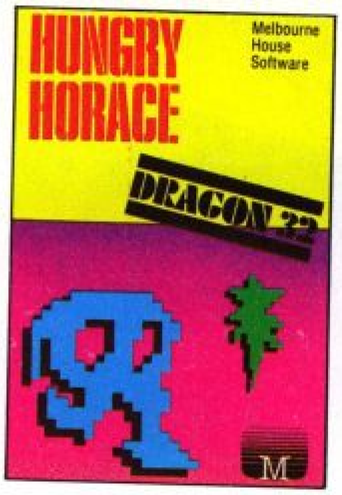
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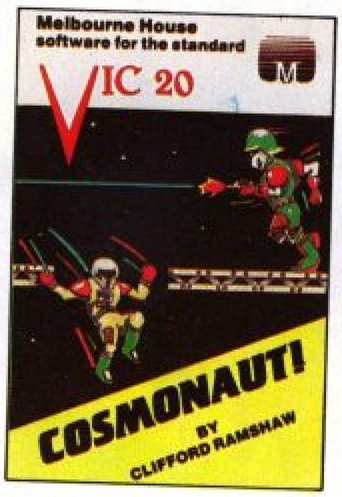
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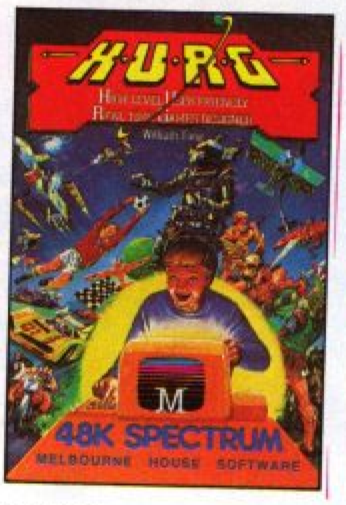
DRAGON HUNGRY HORACE. It has been said that Horace games are in a class of their own. In fact, Horace is almost a legend. Hungry Horace, the original Horace adventure, is now available for the Dragon 32.



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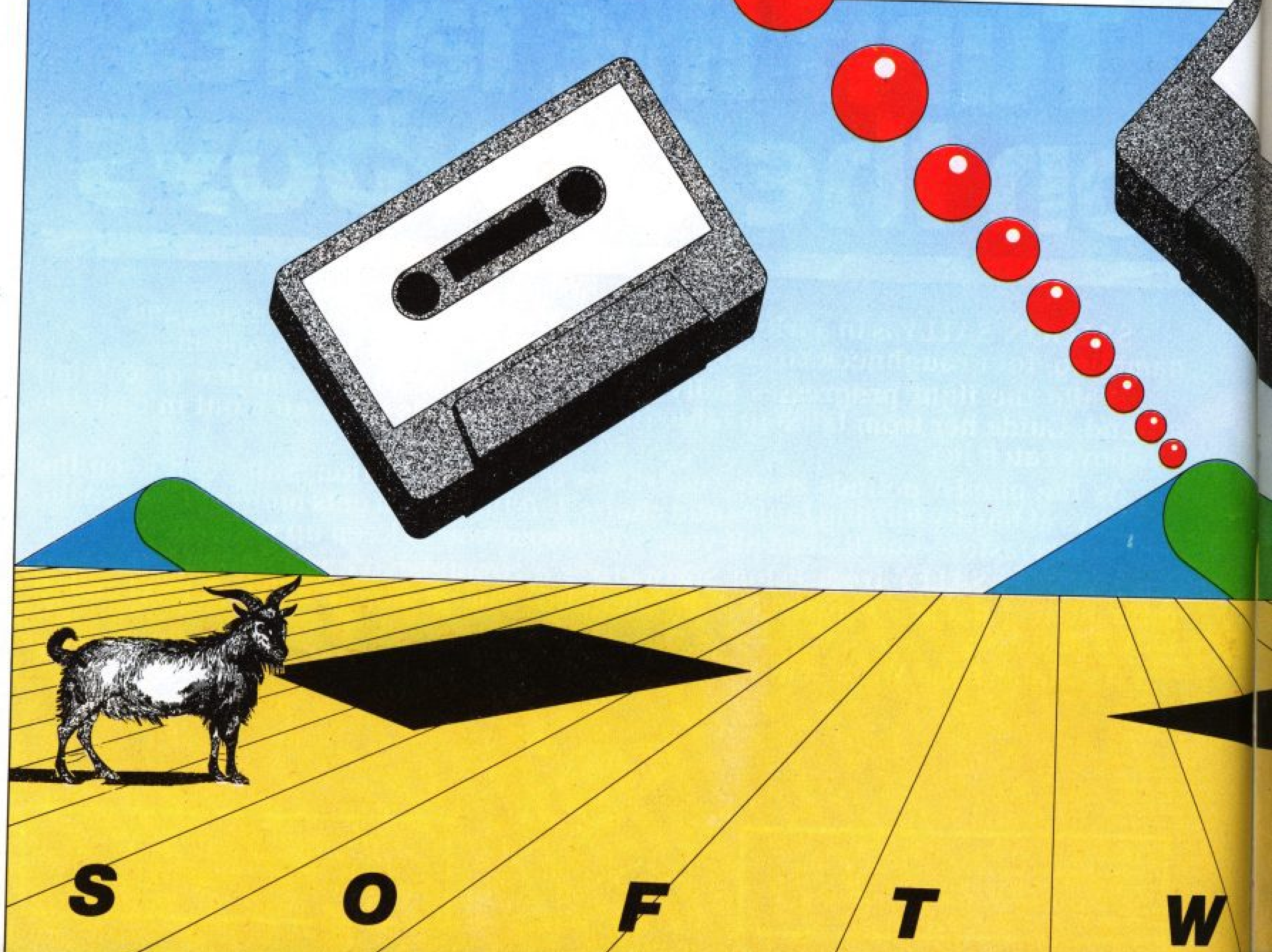


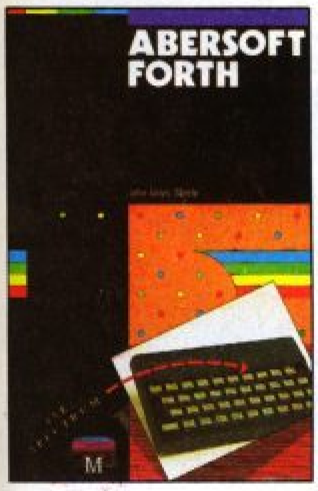
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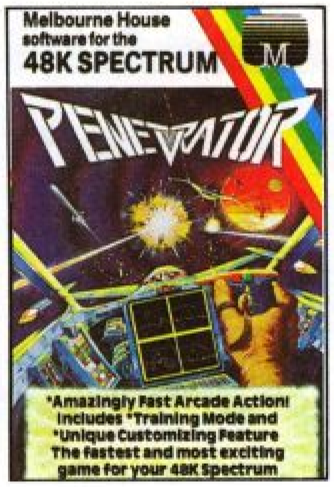
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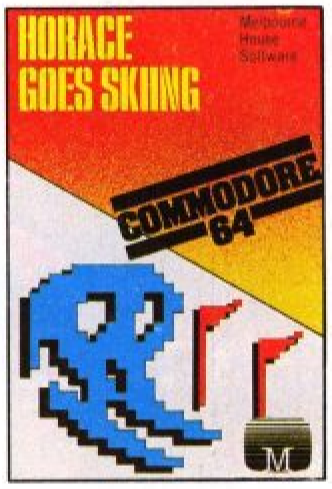




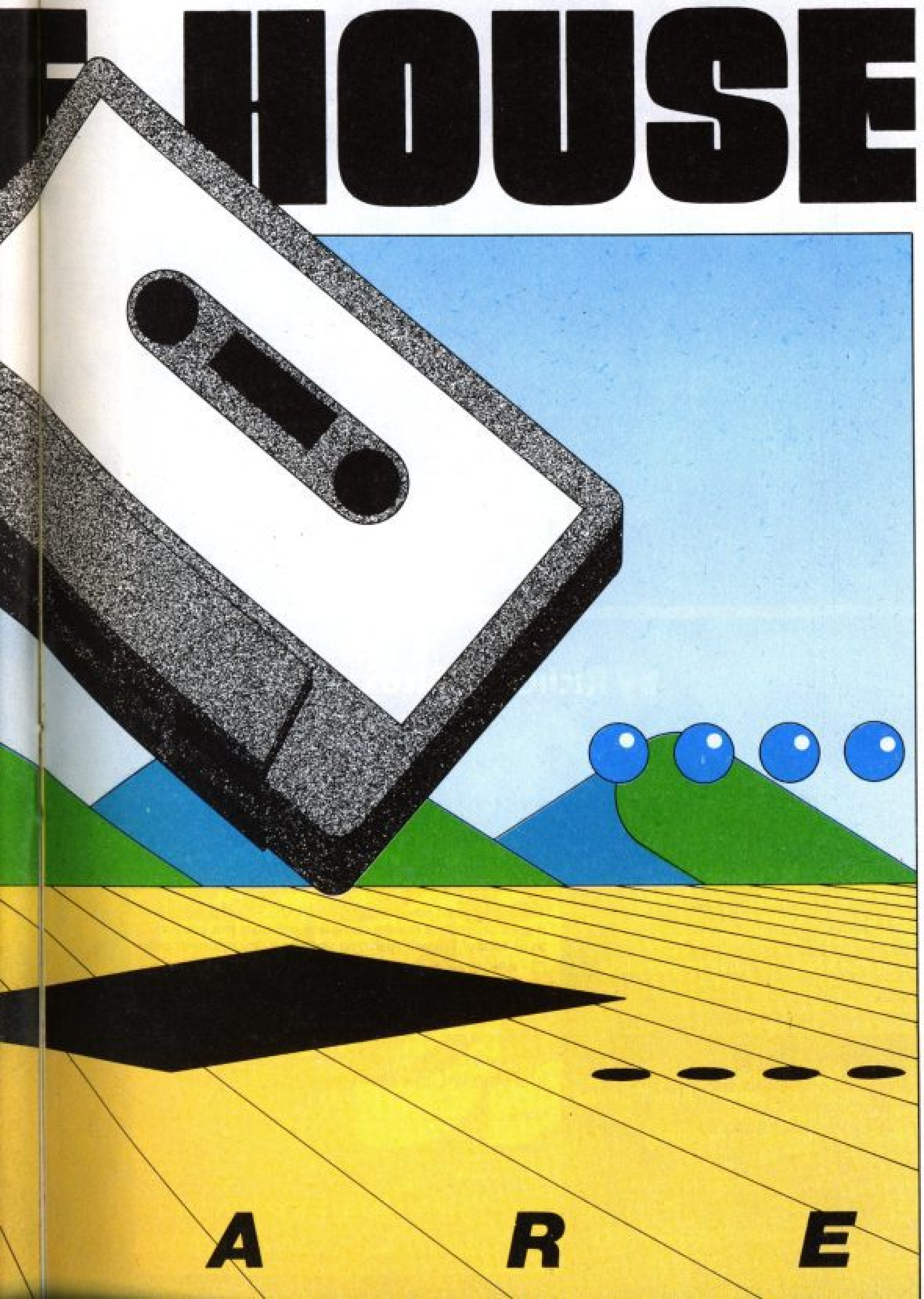
FORTH. Abersoft Forth is an implementation of the Forth Language for your Spectrum 48K. Forth is closer to Machine Code and more than 10 times faster than BASIC. "The only Spectrum package which has been endorsed by the Forth Interest group" — Sinclair User.



PENETRATOR is one of the most challenging arcade games for the 48K Spectrum. Amazingly fast arcade action includes training mode and unique customising feature. "Penetrator is my pick — the graphics are terribly impressive . . . a most enjoyable and addictive game." — Computer and Video Games.



COMMODORE 64 HORACE GOES SKIING is the sequel to the very successful Hungry Horace. In this adventure our hero attemps winter sports. Skiing is complete with slalom flags, trees and moguls so watch our Horace!



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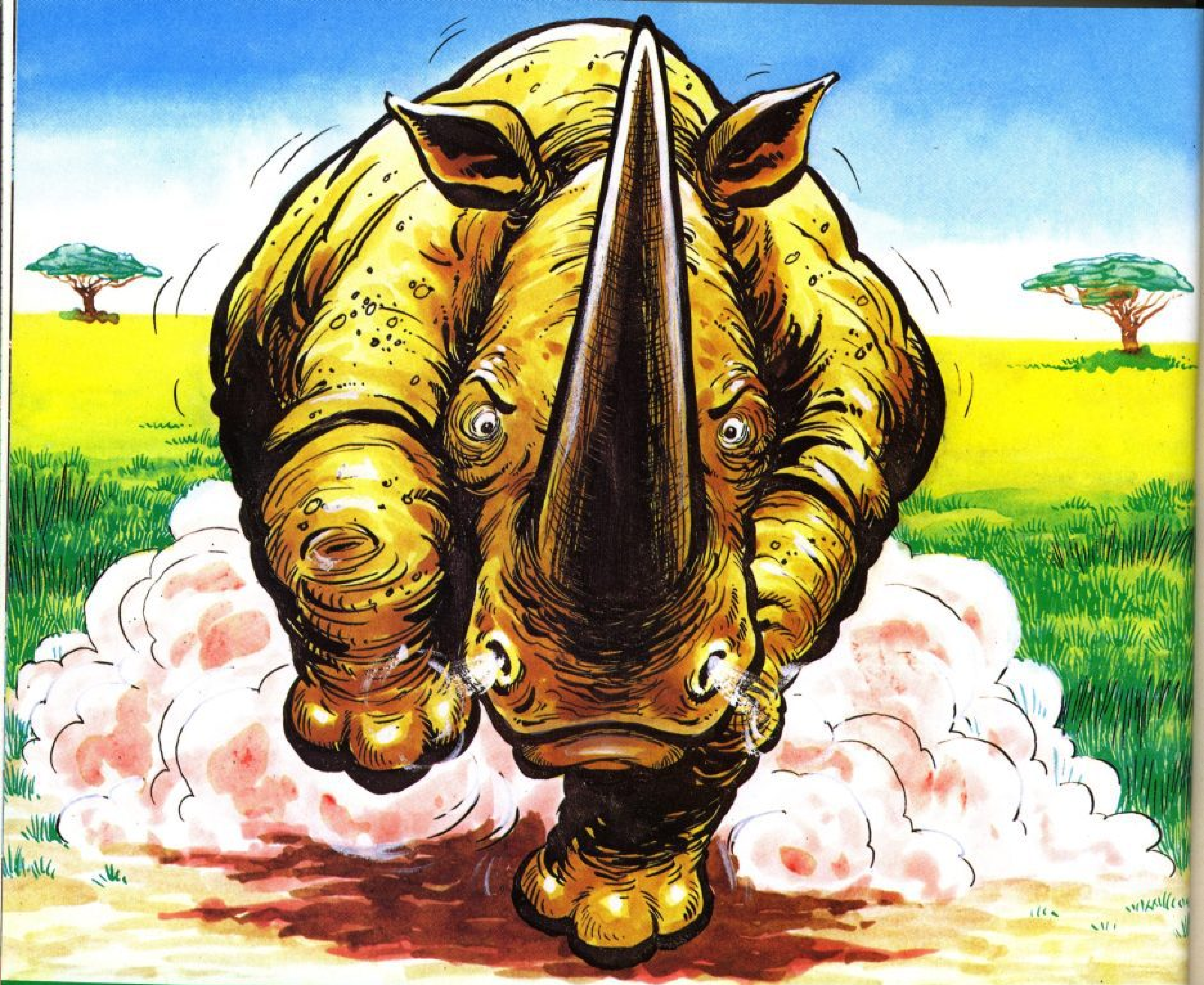


Illustration: Terry Rogers

RUNS ON AN ORIC-1 IN 48K

BY MICHAEL RUSSEL

Can you avoid the giant charging Rhino as it chases you through the forest? Well, if you can't, don't program in this game because you'll soon be in trouble! The object of the game is simple — dodge the Rhino!

You'll find yourself in the forest with a fierce horned animal bearing down on you — how long can you stay out in front? Your only hope of safety is the Missionary's hut — if you can reach it, the Rhino will be beaten — and you'll be ready for the next chase, when more Rhinos will be after you.

The density of the forest can be changed by altering line 10 and the ferocity of the Rhino in line 20. The initial number of Rhinos can be altered by changing line 25.

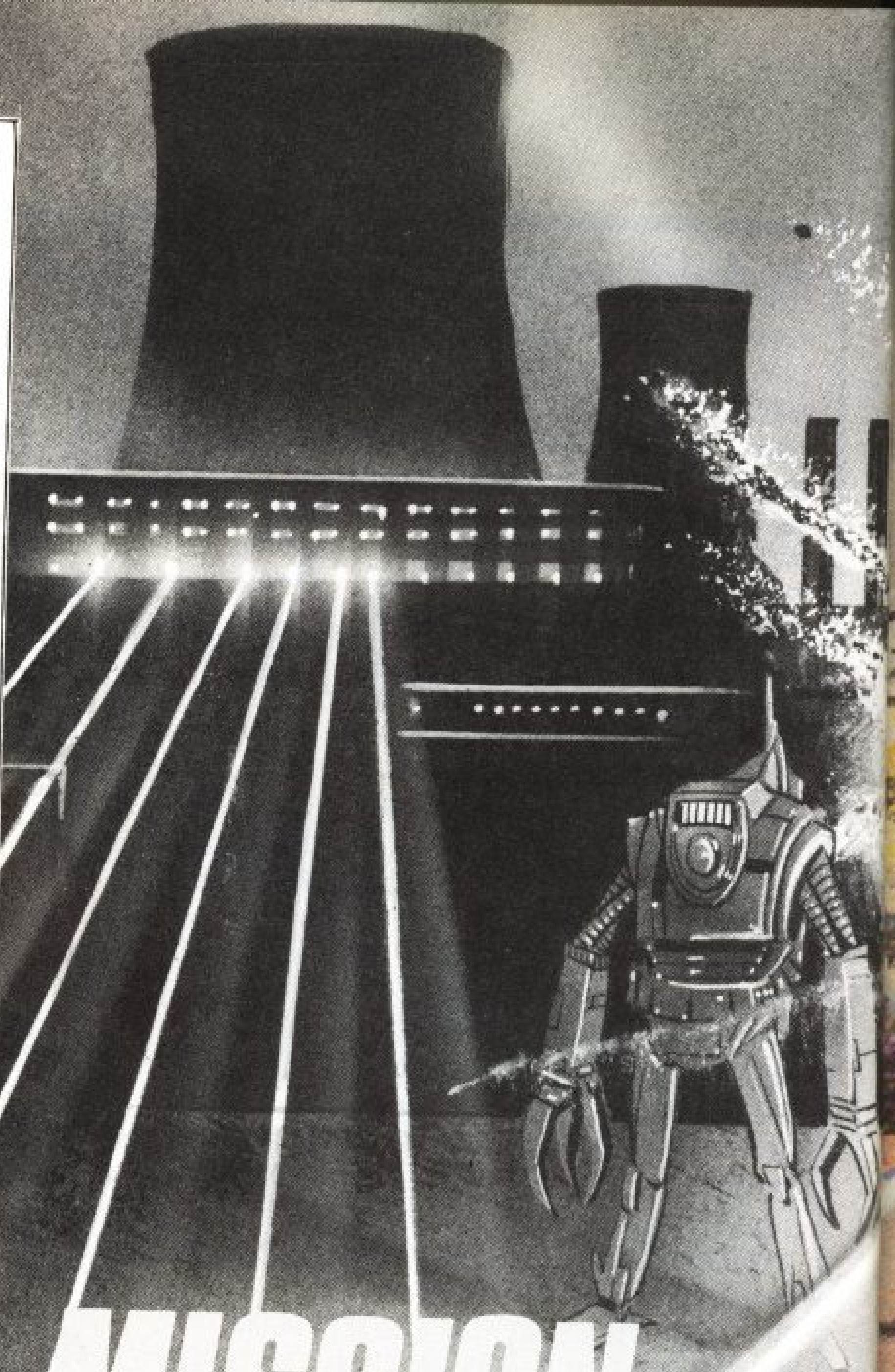
```
1 HIMEM#97FF
2 FORN=46360TO46375:READA:POKEN,A:NEXT
3 DATA0,1,62,20,20,20,20,20,30,30,12,63,12,12,18,33
4 POKE618,10:.PRINTCHR$(12):FORN=1TO4:PRINTCHR$(10):NEXT
5 FORN=1TO14:PRINTCHR$(9);:NEXT
6 PRINT"INSTRUCTIONS?":GETA$:IFA$="Y"THENGOSUB3000
7 POKE555,64
8 REM TYPE IN ALL 'PRINTS' AS '?'             THIS IS SHORTHAND FORM
9 POKE1293,96 'ENSURE LINE 0 IS INCLUDED-IF NOT THIS WILL CORRUPT L
INE 1.
10 D=450 'DENSITY OF FOREST
20 A=3  'FEROCITY OF RHINOS
25 R=1 'INITIAL NO. OF RHINOS
```

RHINO

```
26 REM R<1 THEN RANDOM NO. OF RHINOS
D<1 THEN RANDOM DEN. OF FOREST
27 IFR>10THENR=10
28 IFR^1THENR=INT(RND(1)*10)+1
29 IFD<1THEND=INT(RND(1)*1000)+1
30 PRINTCHR$(12)
35 PAPER4:INK3 'REPLACE THIS WITH:-
PAPER(R+1)AND7:INKRAND7-IF YOUR T.V.
36 REM CAN STAND IT!
40 FORN=1TO38:PLOTN,1,254:PLOTN,26,254:NEXT
50 FORN=1TO26:PLOT1,N,254:PLOT38,N,254:NEXT
60 FORN=0TOD:Q=INT(RND(1)*38)+1:W=INT( RND(1)*26)+1
:PLOTQ,W,254:NEXT
70 PRINTCHR$(11)"NO. OF RHINOS="R
80 FORN=3TO7:PLOT23,N,"           ":NEXT
90 PLOT26,5,"0"
100 X=INT(RND(1)*5)+2:Y=INT(RND(1)*5)+22
110 IFSCRN(X,Y)<>32THEN100
120 PLOTX,Y,164
130 P=R
135 GOTO150
140 P=P-1:IFP>=0THENGOSUB1000ELSEGOSUB1500
150 N=1
155 PLOTX,Y,164
160 X1=0:Y1=0:K$=KEY$
165 IFK$="T"THEN30
170 IFK$="D"THENX1=1
180 IFK$="A"THENX1=-1
190 IFK$="X"THENY1=1
200 IFK$="W"THENY1=-1
210 IFK$="E"THENX1=1:Y1=-1
220 IFK$="C"THENX1=1:Y1=1
230 IFK$="Z"THENX1=-1:Y1=1
240 IFK$="Q"THENY1=-1:X1=-1
245 IFSCRN(X+X1,Y+Y1)=48THEN300
250 IFSCRN(X+X1,Y+Y1)<>32THEN270
260 PLOTX,Y,32:X=X+X1:Y=Y+Y1
261 FORV=Y-2TOY+2:SOUND1,V,15:NEXT:SOUND1,1,0
270 N=N+1:IFN<=ATHEN155
275 PLOTX,Y,164
280 GOTO140
300 PLOTX,Y,32:PLOTX+X1,Y+Y1,64
301 FORN=0TO5:SOUND1,N,15:SOU^D1,RND(1)*150,15:NEXT
305 WAIT50:SOUND1,1,0
310 R=R+1
320 GOTO30
1000 R1(P)=(INT(RND(1)*36)+2):R2(P)=(INT(RND(1)*25)+2)
1010 IFSCRN(R1(P),R2(P))<>32THEN1000
1015 PLOTR1(P),R2(P),35
1016 U=P:GOSUB1505:CALL#F41B:RETURN
1500 U=0
1505 T=U
1510 M1=0:M2=0
1520 IFX<R1(T)THENM1=-1
1530 IFX>R1(T)THENM1=1
1540 IFY<R2(T)THENM2=-1
1550 IFY>R2(T)THENM2=1
1560 IFX<R1(T)+2ANDX>R1(T)-2THENGOSUB2000
1565 IFSCRN(R1(T)+M1,R2(T)+M2)<>32THEN1600
```

RHINO

```
1570 R1(T)=R1(T)+M1:R2(T)=R2(T)+M2
1580 PLOTR1(T)-M1,R2(T)-M2,32:PLOTR1(T),R2(T),35
1600 IFM1*M2<>0THENGOSUB2700
1605 T=T+1:IFT<RTHEN1510
1610 RETURN
2000 IFY<R2(T)+2ANDY>R2(T)-2THEN2010ELSERETURN
2010 POP:PLOTX,Y,37
2020 FORN=0TO200:SOUND1,N,15:NEXT:PING
2022 WAIT70
2025 SOUND1,1,0
2030 PLOT13,13,"GAME OVER"
2040 PLOT11,14,"ANOTHER GAME?"
2050 PLOT14,15,"(Y OR N)"
2060 A$=KEY$:IFA$="Y"THEN10
2070 IFA$<>"N"THEN2060
2080 CLEAR:CLS:POKE618,3:END
2700 IFSCRN(R1(T)+M1,R2(T))=32THEN2760
2720 IFSCRN(R1(T),R2(T)+M2)=32THEN2770
2730 RETURN
2760 POP:M2=0:GOTO1560
2770 POP:M1=0:GOTO1560
3000 PRINTCHR$(12):INK3:PAPER0
3010 PRINT"                "CHR$(27)CHR$(4)"J>>>"CHR$(132)
"RHINO"CHR$(131)"<<<"CHR$(4)
3020 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT" THIS IS THE GAME OF RHINO. YOU ARE"
3030 PRINT"A MAN TRAPPED IN THE AFRICAN BUSH. "
3032 PRINT"YOU ARE TRYING TO REACH THE SAFETY"
3034 PRINT"OF A HUT. MOVE THROUGH THE TREES ("CHR$(254)")
3036 PRINT"AND TRY TO REACH IT. "
3040 PRINT"HOWEVER YOU ARE NOT ALONE!!!"
3050 PRINT:PRINT" IT IS"CHR$(132)"RHINO"CHR$(131)
"COUNTRY AND AS YOU"
3060 PRINT"HEAD FOR THE COVER. OF THE HUT(0)IN"
3070 PRINT"THE TOP RIGHT HAND CORNER, RHINO (#)"
3080 PRINT"WILL APPEAR, AND A ZAP WILL SOUND. "
3090 PRINT:PRINT" SHOULD YOU REACH THE HUT A NEW"
3100 PRINT"BUSHLAND WILL APPEAR, BUT THIS TIME"
3110 PRINT"THERE WILL BE ANOTHER RHINO!!!"
3120 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT" GOOD LUCK.  PRESS ANY KEY TO
CONT.  ":GETA$:CLS
3121 PRINT
3122 PRINT"SHOULD YOU GET TRAPPED    E.G. "CHR$(254)
CHR$(254)CHR$(254)
3124 PRINT"PRESS"CHR$(134)"'T'"CHR$(131)"FOR ANOTHER
MAZE    "CHR$(254)"$"CHR$(25^)
3125 PRINT"                                   "CHR$(254)
CHR$(254)CHR$(254):PRINT
3130 PRINT"          "CHR$(130)"KEYS
3140 PRINT"          "CHR$(133)"====
3150 PRINT
3160 PRINT"        Q  W  E
3170 PRINT"         \ \ /
3180 PRINT"        A-"CHR$(129)"$"CHR$(131)"-D
3190 PRINT"         / \ \
3200 PRINT"        Z  X  C
3210 PRINT:PRINT"    "CHR$(27)"LANY KEY TO BEGIN":GETA$
3220 RETURN
```



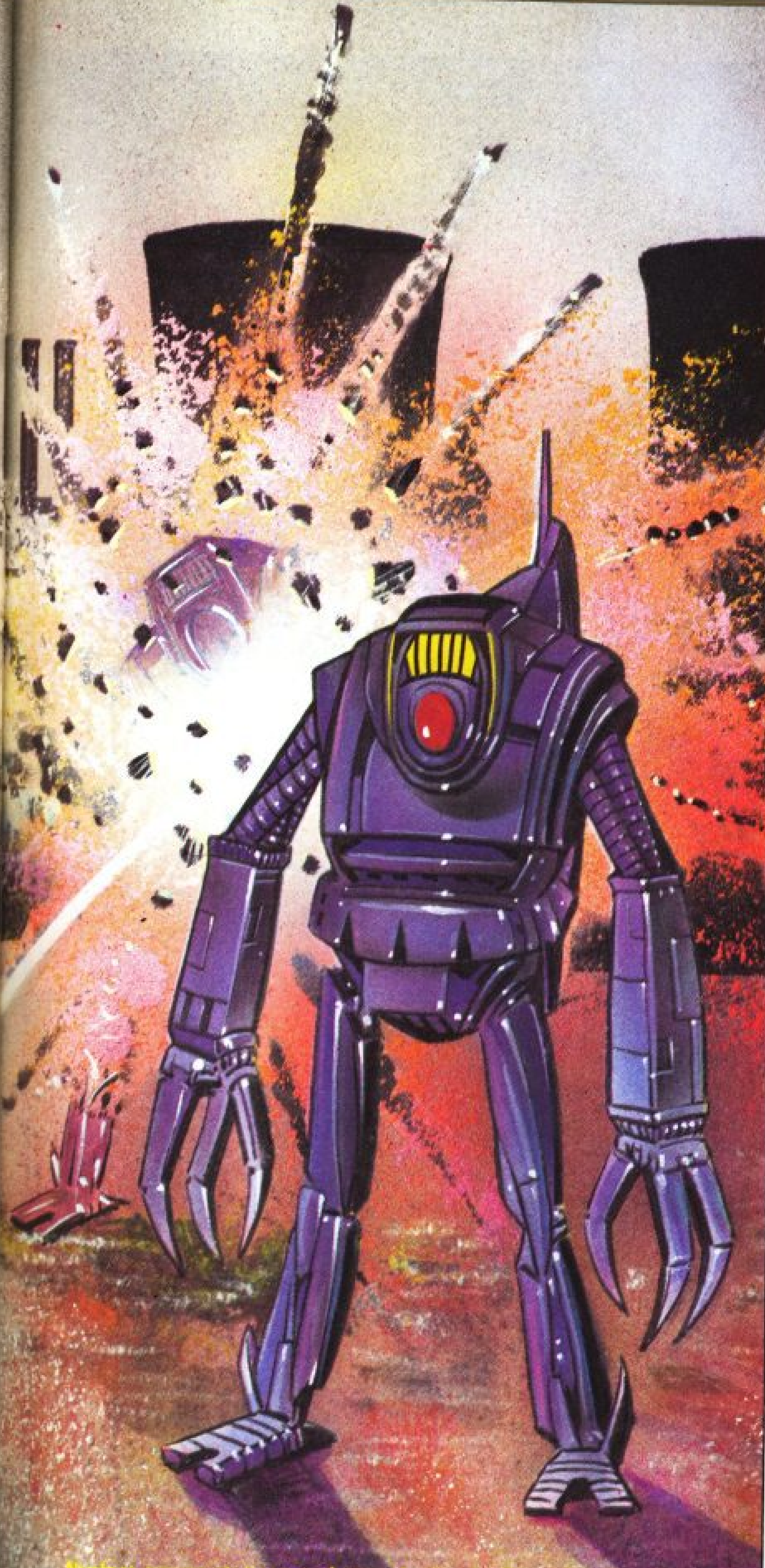
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE

BY DAVID HEALEY

RUNS ON A SPECTRUM IN 48K

```
 110 LET l=-1
 120 LET m=0
 500 GO SUB 9500
 510 GO TO 9820
1000 GO SUB j
1010 IF INT (RND*rc)=1 THEN LET
l=l+1: IF l>1 THEN LET l=-1
1020 GO SUB 3100+(100*l)
1030 GO SUB j
1040 GO SUB 3500
1500 GO TO 1000
2000 IF INKEY$="5" THEN GO TO 25
00
2010 IF INKEY$="6" THEN GO TO 26
00
2020 IF INKEY$="7" THEN GO TO 27
00
2030 IF INKEY$="8" THEN GO TO 28
00
2040 RETURN
2050 IF IN 31=2 THEN GO TO 2500
2060 IF IN 31=4 THEN GO TO 2600
2070 IF IN 31=8 THEN GO TO 2700
2080 IF IN 31=1 THEN GO TO 2800
2090 RETURN
2500 LET nx=nx-1
2515 IF ATTR (ny,nx)=57 THEN GO
TO 2550
2520 PRINT INK c;AT ny,nx+1;"‡":
: BEEP .05,-8: PRINT AT ny,nx;"‡
"; INK 7;AT ny,nx+1;" ": BEEP .0
5,-3: PRINT INK c;AT ny,nx;"‡"
2525 RETURN
2550 LET nx=nx+1: RETURN
2600 LET ny=ny+1
2603 IF ATTR (ny,nx)=63 THEN GO
TO 2620
2605 IF ATTR (ny,nx)=56 THEN GO
TO 5000
2615 IF ATTR (ny,nx)=57 OR 52 TH
EN GO TO 2650
2620 PRINT INK c;AT ny-1,nx;"‡";
AT ny,nx;"": BEEP .05,-8: PRINT
 INK c;AT ny-1,nx;" ";AT ny,nx;"
‡": BEEP .1,-8: PRINT INK 7;AT n
y-1,nx;" ": INK c;AT ny,nx;"‡"
2625 RETURN
2650 LET ny=ny-1: RETURN
2700 LET ny=ny-1
2710 IF ATTR (ny,nx)=187 THEN GO
 SUB 5200
2715 IF ATTR (ny,nx)=57 THEN GO
TO 2750
2720 PRINT INK c;AT ny,nx;" ";AT
 ny+1,nx;"‡": BEEP .05,-8: PRINT
 AT ny,nx;"‡";AT ny+1,nx;"": BE
EP .1,-3: PRINT INK 7;AT ny+1,nx
;" "; INK c;AT ny,nx;"‡"
2725 RETURN
2750 LET ny=ny+1: RETURN
2800 LET nx=nx+1
2815 IF ATTR (ny,nx)=57 THEN GO
TO 2850
2820 PRINT INK c;AT ny,nx-1;"‡":
 BEEP .05,-8: PRINT INK 7;AT ny,
nx-1;" "; INK c;AT ny,nx;"‡": BE
EP .05,-3: PRINT INK c;AT ny,nx;
"‡"
2825 RETURN
2850 LET nx=nx-1: RETURN
3000 LET hx=16*(INT (RND*13))+27
3010 INK 2: PLOT hx,32: DRAW 0,1
19: BEEP .07,30: INK 7: PLOT hx,
32: DRAW 0,119
3020 IF nx<>INT (hx/8) THEN RETU
RN
3025 IF ny<3 OR ny>17 THEN RETUR
N
3030 LET m=m+1
3040 IF m<3 THEN GO TO 4700
3070 GO TO 3225
3100 FOR x=1 TO 10: NEXT x
3110 RETURN
3200 LET hy=2*INT (RND*7)+3
3210 PRINT INK 4;AT hy,2;"~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
": BEEP .0
7,20: PRINT INK 7;AT hy,2;"

3220 IF hy<>ny THEN RETURN
3221 LET m=m+1
3223 IF m<3 THEN GO TO 4700
3225 FOR x=1 TO 6: BEEP .05,7*x:
 PRINT INK x;AT ny,nx;".";AT ny,
nx;"▫";AT ny,nx;"□";AT ny,nx;"□"
: NEXT x
3230 PRINT AT ny,nx;" "
3235 GO TO 4000
3500 PRINT INK 7;AT 2,gx;" "
3510 READ g: PRINT INK 2;AT 2,g;
"♥"
3515 LET gx=g
3520 IF nx=g AND ny=2 THEN GO TO
 3560
3530 IF g=2 THEN RESTORE 9990
3540 RETURN
3560 LET m=m+1
3570 IF m<3 THEN GO TO 4700
3600 FOR x=1 TO 6: INK x: PRINT
AT ny,nx;".": BEEP .03,8*x: PRIN
T AT ny,nx;"▫": BEEP .03,(8*x)-1
0: PRINT AT ny,nx;"□": BEEP .03,
(8*x)-20: PRINT AT ny,nx;"□": BE
EP .03,(8*x)-30
3610 GO TO 3225
4000 PAUSE 100
4010 INK 7: PAPER 0: BRIGHT 1: C
LS
4020 PRINT "OPERATIVE DECEASED:"
: BEEP .1,0: PRINT
4030 PRINT "All life functions z
ero": BEEP .1,0: PRINT : PRINT
4040 PRINT "STATUS REPORT:": BEE
P .1,0: PRINT
4050 PRINT "Fuel rods recovered:
 ";rs
```



Nuclear power stations and men don't mix. There is always the danger of exposure to radiation or human error that can cause catastrophic results. There is also the danger of sabotage or terrorist action.

The solution to all these problems was the Manson Green Automated Nuclear Power Station. It is run by robots and a laser defence system keeps out unwanted visitors. It all worked perfectly — until now!

There has been a malfunction and the defence mechanisms are preventing anyone getting in to solve the problem! Your job is to save the power station by collecting the fuel rods and storing them in lead-lined containers.

The rods are at the top of the screen and can be recognised by the flashing radiation warning indicators attached to them. You have to collect the rods, one at a time, and transport them to the base of the screen where you'll find a corridor full of lead-lined containers.

But all the time the laser defence system will be attempting to blast you!

You can play the game using the keyboard or Kempston joystick. Further instructions are included in the program.

```
4060 PRINT "Mission success:
     ";INT (rs/14*100);"%": BEEP
 .1,0: PRINT : PRINT : PRINT : P
RINT
4070 PRINT "Press:": PRINT : PRI
NT "1: For mission instructions.
": PRINT "2: To start.": BEEP .1
,0
4080 IF INKEY$="1" THEN GO TO 92
00
4090 IF INKEY$="2" THEN GO TO 90
00
4100 GO TO 4080
4700 FOR q=1 TO 10: PRINT AT ny,
nx; INK 6;"*"; INK 2;AT ny,nx;"*
": BEEP .02,q: NEXT q:
4705 PRINT INK 7; PAPER 0;AT 0,2
;"OPERATIVE INJURED.PRESS 'X'";A
T 21,0;"FOR MEDICAL ATTENTION &
RE-START": BEEP .1,0
4710 IF INKEY$="x" THEN GO TO 47
40
4720 GO TO 4710
4730 CLS : GO TO 9010
4740 PRINT INK 1;AT 0,0;"[redacted]"
4745 PRINT INK 1;AT 21,0;"[redacted]"
4750 BORDER 0: PRINT AT ny,nx; I
NK c;"*": GO TO 1000
5000 IF c<>3 THEN GO TO 5100
5010 LET c=0: LET rc=rc-1
5020 FOR x=-40 TO 40 STEP 10
5030 PRINT INK 2;AT ny,nx;"⊠"
5040 LET ny=ny-1
5050 PRINT INK c;AT ny,nx;"*"
5060 LET rs=rs+1
5070 IF rs=14 THEN GO TO 6000
5080 RETURN
5100 LET ny=ny-1: RETURN
5200 IF c=3 THEN GO TO 5300
5210 LET c=3
5220 FOR x=1 TO 7: PRINT INK x;A
T ny,nx;"●": BEEP .5,8*x: NEXT x
5225 RETURN
5300 LET ny=ny+1: RETURN
6000 PAUSE 100
6010 PAPER 7: INK 1: BORDER 2: B
RIGHT 1: CLS
6020 PRINT "MISSION COMPLETED:":
 BEEP .1,10: PRINT
6030 PRINT "All rods recovered.
            Station now safe.
            Congratulations.": B
EEP .1,10
6040 PRINT : PRINT : PRINT : PRI
NT : PRINT : PRINT : PRINT
6050 GO TO 4070
9000 PAPER 7: BRIGHT 0: CLS
9005 LET c=0: LET ny=19: LET nx=
15: LET rs=0: LET gx=4: LET m=0:
 LET rc=17
9010 PRINT INK 1;"[redacted]"
9020 PRINT INK 1;"[redacted]": FOR x=2 T
O 28 STEP 2: PRINT AT 1,x; INK 3
; FLASH 1;"●"; INK 1; FLASH 0;"[redacted]
": NEXT x: PRINT AT 1,30; INK 1;
"[redacted]"
9030 PRINT INK 1;"[redacted]"; INK 7;"
                         "; INK
1;"[redacted]"
9035 FOR y=3 TO 15 STEP 2: PRINT
 AT y,0; INK 1;"[redacted]"; INK 7;"
                       "; INK 1;
"[redacted]": PRINT AT y+1,0; INK 1;"[redacted]": FOR x=3 TO 25 STEP 2: PRINT
AT y+1,x; INK 7;" "; INK 1;"[redacted]";:
 NEXT x: PRINT INK 7;" "; INK 1;
"[redacted]": NEXT y
9040 PRINT INK 1;"[redacted]"; INK 7;"
                          "; INK
 1;"[redacted]"
9045 PRINT INK 1;"[redacted]"; INK 7;" ";
 INK 1;"[redacted]"; INK 7;" "; INK 1;"[redacted]"
9050 PRINT INK 1;"[redacted]"; INK 7;"
                          "; INK
 1;"[redacted]"
9055 PRINT INK 1;"[redacted]": FOR x=2 T
O 28 STEP 2: PRINT AT 20,x; INK
0;"●"; INK 1;"[redacted]": NEXT x: PRINT
AT 20,30; INK 1;"[redacted]"
9060 PRINT INK 1;"[redacted]"
9070 PRINT INK c;AT ny,nx;"*"
9080 GO TO 1000
9199 STOP
9200 CLS
9205: INK 6: PAPER 0: BORDER 0:
CLS
```

Illustration: John Higgins

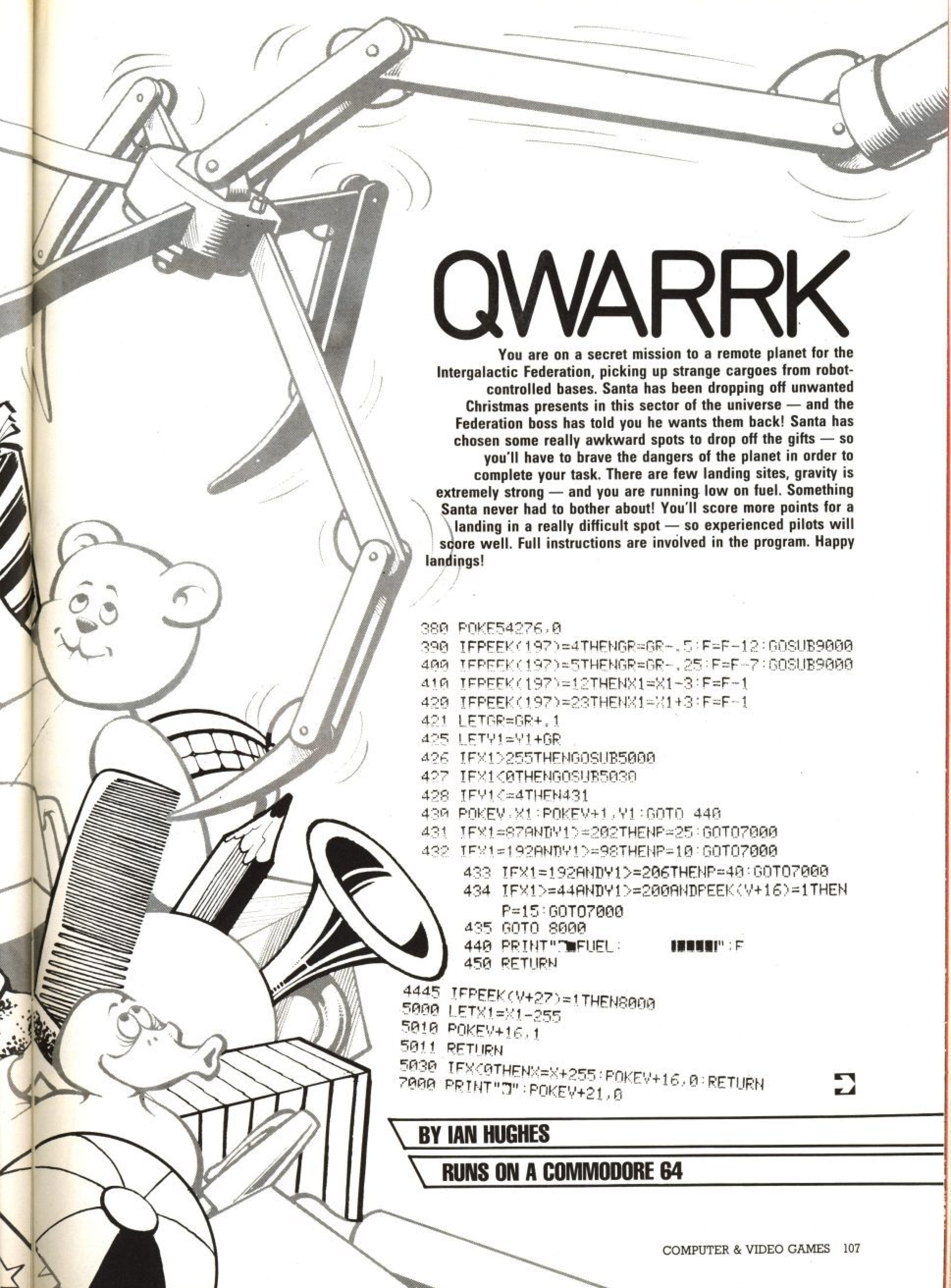

TERMINAL SOFTWARE
commodore 64 games cassettes
SUPER SKRAMBLE!
Personal Computer News (15-21 Sept '83) gave SUPER SKRAMBLE! an overall rating of NINETEEN OUT OF TWENTY and described it as: "Well implemented with beautifully smooth scrolling and very nice graphics."
SUPER GRIDDER
"... a compelling piece of frivolity that could give hours of fun." was the verdict of Personal Computer News (22-28 Sept '83).
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TERMINAL
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The first 64 games cassette to have SIMULTANEOUS TWO-PLAYER ACTION – realistic sound effects too.
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A game of skill and anticipation in which you must dodge your way through asteroids to complete your mission.
NEW
NEW
HUNTER
A fast action game in which your pursuers gain in speed and intelligence as you master each successive screen.
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AASHIMA – ROTTERDAM

```
9210 PRINT "LOCATION:": BEEP .5,
10
9215 PRINT
9220 PRINT "A FULLY AUTOMATED NU
CLEAR POWER STATION PATROLLED BY
 GUARDIAN   ROBOTS AND PROTECTED
 BY A LASER DEFENCE MECHANISM.":
 BEEP .5,10
9225 PAUSE 600
9230 CLS
9235 PRINT "PROBLEM:": BEEP .5,1
0
9240 PRINT
9245 PRINT "FUEL ROD HANDLING MA
LFUNCTION.   ALL RODS EXPOSED.
             TIME TO CRITICAL RAD
IOACTIVE     RUNAWAY CONDITION: U
NKNOWN": BEEP .5,10
9250 PAUSE 600
9255 CLS
9260 PRINT "MISSION:": BEEP .5,1
0
9265 PRINT
9270 PRINT "YOUR MISSION SHOULD
YOU DECIDE   TO TAKE IT IS TO ENT
ER THE POWERSTATION AND MOVE THE
 FUEL RODS   INTO PROTECTIVE LEAD
 CONTAINERS.": BEEP .5,10
9275 PAUSE 800
9280 CLS
9285 INK 5
9290 PRINT "TOP SECRET": BEEP .5
,10
9295 PRINT
9300 PRINT "BRIEF:": BEEP .5,10
9305 PRINT
9310 PRINT "1: The fuel rods are
 located at the top of the scree
n and can berecognised easily as
 they have  flashing radiation w
arning       indicators attached.
": BEEP .5,10
9315 PRINT
9320 PRINT "2: The lead containe
rs are       situated in a corrid
or at the    base of the screen."
: BEEP .5,10
9325 PRINT
9330 PRINT "3: You must transpor
t the rods   to these containers
avoiding thelaser fire and guard
ian robot.": BEEP .5,10
9340 PRINT : PRINT
9345 PRINT "Press X to select co
ntrols."
9350 IF INKEY$="x" THEN GO TO 93
60
9355 GO TO 9350
9360 CLS : INK 7
9365 PRINT "CONTROL SELECTION:"
9370 PRINT
9375 PRINT "CURSOR KEYS (Press C
)": PRINT : PRINT "KEMPSTON J/ST
ICK (Press J)": BEEP .5,10
9380 IF INKEY$="c" THEN GO TO 94
00
9385 IF INKEY$="j" THEN GO TO 94
20
9390 GO TO 9380
9400 LET j=2000
9410 GO TO 9000
9420 LET j=2050
9430 GO TO 9000
9499 STOP
9500 FOR n=0 TO 168
9505 READ a
9510 POKE USR "a"+n,a
9515 NEXT n
9650 RETURN
9700 DATA 0,BIN 00001000,BIN 000
11100,BIN 00101010,BIN 00001000,
BIN 00010100,BIN 00010100,BIN 00
10100
9705 DATA 0,0,0,0,0,0,0,BIN 0000
1000
9710 DATA BIN 00011100,BIN 00101
100,BIN 00001000,BIN 00010100,BI
N 00010100,BIN 00010000,0,0
9715 DATA 0,0,0,0,BIN 00001000,B
IN 00011100,BIN 00011010,BIN 000
01000
9720 DATA BIN 00010100,BIN 00010
100,BIN 00000100,0,0,0,0,0
9725 DATA 0,BIN 00000010,BIN 000
00010,BIN 00000110,BIN 00000011,
BIN 00000010,BIN 00000101,BIN 00
000100
9730 DATA 0,BIN 01000000,BIN 010
00000,BIN 01100000,BIN 11000000,
BIN 01000000,BIN 10100000,BIN 00
100000
9735 DATA 0,0,0,BIN 10101010,BIN
 01010101,0,0,0
9740 DATA BIN 00111100,BIN 00111
100,BIN 11111111,BIN 11111111,BI
N 11111111,BIN 11111111,BIN 0011
1100,BIN 00111100
9745 DATA BIN 01111110,BIN 11000
011,BIN 10100101,BIN 10011001,BI
N 10011001,BIN 10100101,BIN 1100
0011,BIN 01111110
9750 DATA BIN 00000000,BIN 00000
000,BIN 00000000,BIN 00011000,BI
N 00011000,BIN 00000000,BIN 0000
0000,BIN 00000000
9755 DATA BIN 00000000,BIN 00000
000,BIN 00111100,BIN 00100100,BI
N 00100100,BIN 00111100,BIN 0000
0000,BIN 00000000
9760 DATA BIN 00000000,BIN 01111
110,BIN 01000010,BIN 01000010,BI
N 01000010,BIN 01000010,BIN 0111
1110,BIN 00000000
9765 DATA BIN 11111111,BIN 10000
001,BIN 10000001,BIN 10000001,BI
N 10000001,BIN 10000001,BIN 1000
0001,BIN 11111111
9770 DATA BIN 11100000,BIN 11010
000,BIN 01000000,BIN 10100000,BI
N 10100000,BIN 00100000,0,0
9775 DATA 0,BIN 00011000,BIN 001
11100,BIN 01111110,BIN 01111110,
BIN 00111100,BIN 00011000,0
9780 DATA 0,BIN 01100000,BIN 011
01000,BIN 01111110,BIN 01101000,
BIN 01100000,0,0
9785 DATA 0,BIN 00000110,BIN 000
10110,BIN 01111110,BIN 00010110,
BIN 00000110,0,0
9790 DATA 0,BIN 00010000,BIN 000
10000,BIN 00111000,BIN 00010000,
BIN 01111100,BIN 01111100,0
9795 DATA BIN 10100101,BIN 11111
111,BIN 10011001,BIN 01011010,BI
N 01111110,BIN 00100100,BIN 0001
1000,0
9800 DATA BIN 01111110,BIN 11111
111,BIN 11111111,BIN 11111111,BI
N 11111111,BIN 11111111,BIN 1111
1111,BIN 01111110
9820 PAPER 0: BORDER 0: CLS
9822 LET j=0
9825 FOR y=1 TO 4: INK y
9830 LET j=j+1: IF j=30 THEN GO
TO 9200
9835 BEEP .5,-25
9855 PRINT AT 0,0
9860 PRINT "  "
9865 PRINT "  "
9870 PRINT "  "
9880 PRINT "  "
9890 PRINT
9895 PRINT
9900 PRINT "  "
9905 PRINT "  "
9910 PRINT "  "
9915 PRINT "  "
9920 PRINT
9925 PRINT
9930 PRINT "  "
9935 PRINT "  "
9940 PRINT
9945 PRINT "
9950 PRINT " CRITICAL"
9955 PRINT
9960 PRINT
9965 PRINT " A SYNACROOP SOFTWAR
E PRODUCTION"
9970 PRINT
9975 NEXT y: GO TO 9825
9980 GO TO 9200
9990 DATA 3,4,3,4,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,
6,7,6,5,6,7,6,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12
,13,14,15,16,17,16,17,16,15,14,1
4,13,12,13,14,13,12,13,14,15,16,
17,18,17,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23
,24,24,23,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,2
7,26,25,26,27,28,2
```

```
0 PRINT"▀"
1 PRINT "■WELCOME TO PLANET QWARRK BY IAN HUGHES"
2 PRINT "■────────────────────────────────────────"
3 GOSUB9030
5 POKE54296,0:POKE53281,2:POKE54276,0
6 RESTORE:CLR
10 PRINT"▀"
20 PRINT "■WELCOME TO PLANET QWARRK BY IAN HUGHES"
21 PRINT "■────────────────────────────────────────"
30 V=53248
31 POKEV+16,0
35 POKEV+21,1
40 POKE2040,13
45 FORN=0TO62:READQ:POKE832+N,Q:NEXTN
50 DATA0,255,0,1,219,128,3,219,192,7,231,224,15,25,240
55 DATA123,0,222,79,0,242,75,0,210,71,255,226,226,126,71,161,90,133
60 DATA160,231,5,1,231,128,1,60,128,2,24,64,4,60,32,8,126,16
65 DATA112,255,14,241,255,143,240,0,15,96,0,6
70 POKEV+23,1:POKEV+29,1
80 POKEV,130:POKEV+1,75
81 PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT:PRINT
90 PRINT"◣  'F1'=MAIN ENGINES 'F3'=1/2 ENGINES"
100 PRINT"          'Z'=LEFT 'X'=RIGHT"
101 PRINT"■       DO NOT HIT ANY GREEN WALLS"
102 PRINT"           LANDING PADS '▒▒▒'"
103 PRINT
104 PRINT"◣ ■REMEMBER■---THE HARDER THE LOCATION AND"
105 PRINT" SOFTER THE LANDING,THE MORE THE POINTS"
110 PRINT"■          PRESS ANY KEY TO START"
120 GETA$:IFA$=""THEN120
135 POKEV+21,0
136 POKEV+23,1:POKEV+29,1
140 PRINT"▀"
150 FORY=1TO2:PRINT:NEXTY
155 PRINT"■"SPC(16)" _"
159 PRINT"■"SPC(16)"/ \"
160 PRINT"■/──\"SPC(11)"/      \"SPC(4)" ─ "SPC(5)"┌\      ┌"
170 PRINT"■        \"SPC(9)"/      |"SPC(4)"| |"SPC(5)"| /     |
180 PRINT"■         \"SPC(8)"|      /"SPC(4)"| |"SPC(5)"||     |"
190 PRINT"■          \"SPC(7)"|     \_■▒▒▒■| |"SPC(5)"||     |"
200 PRINT"■           \"SPC(5)"/"SPC(12)"|"SPC(5)"| \     |"
210 PRINT"■           |"SPC(4)"/"SPC(13)"|"SPC(5)"| |     |"
220 PRINT"■           |"SPC(4)"|"SPC(13)"|"SPC(5)"| |     |"
230 PRINT"■           |"SPC(4)"|"SPC(8)" ────/"SPC(5)"| |    |"
240 PRINT"■          /"SPC(4)"|"SPC(8)" |"SPC(10)"| |     |"
250 PRINT"■         /"SPC(5)"|"SPC(8)"/"SPC(10)"| |     |"
260 PRINT"■        /"SPC(6)"|"SPC(7)"/"SPC(10)"/ |     |"
270 PRINT"■       /"SPC(5)" ┌─'"SPC(7)"|"SPC(9)"/  |     |"
280 PRINT"■      /"SPC(6)"└─\"SPC(7)"|"SPC(4)"┌──┘  |     |"
290 PRINT"■      |"SPC(6)"  |"SPC(7)"|"SPC(4)"|     |     |"
300 PRINT"■     / "SPC(6)"  |"SPC(7)"└■▒▒▒■─/    |     |"
310 PRINT"■     |"SPC(7)"  /"SPC(20)"|     |"
320 PRINT"■     └──────■▒▒▒■─┘                  └■▒▒▒■┘"
321 PRINT:PRINT
330 F=700:GR=0
340 X1=24:Y1=58:POKEV,X1:POKEV+1,Y1
350 POKEV+23,0:POKEV+29,0
360 POKEV+21,1
361 GOSUB 370:GOTO361
370 IFY1<>58ANDPEEK(V+31)=1THEN431
371 IFF<0THEN431
372 IFY1<2THEN 431
```



Illustration: Terry Rogers



QWARRK

You are on a secret mission to a remote planet for the Intergalactic Federation, picking up strange cargoes from robot-controlled bases. Santa has been dropping off unwanted Christmas presents in this sector of the universe — and the Federation boss has told you he wants them back! Santa has chosen some really awkward spots to drop off the gifts — so you'll have to brave the dangers of the planet in order to complete your task. There are few landing sites, gravity is extremely strong — and you are running low on fuel. Something Santa never had to bother about! You'll score more points for a landing in a really difficult spot — so experienced pilots will score well. Full instructions are involved in the program. Happy landings!

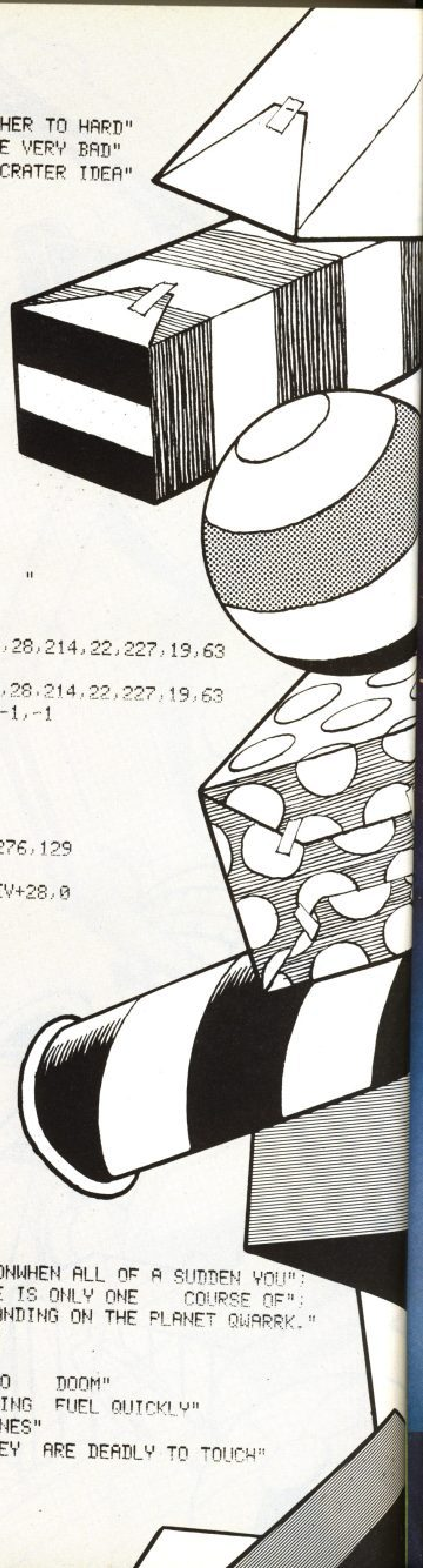
```
380 POKE54276,0
390 IFPEEK(197)=4THENGR=GR-.5:F=F-12:GOSUB9000
400 IFPEEK(197)=5THENGR=GR-.25:F=F-7:GOSUB9000
410 IFPEEK(197)=12THENX1=X1-3:F=F-1
420 IFPEEK(197)=23THENX1=X1+3:F=F-1
421 LETGR=GR+.1
425 LETY1=Y1+GR
426 IFX1>255THENGOSUB5000
427 IFX1<0THENGOSUB5030
428 IFY1<=4THEN431
430 POKEV,X1:POKEV+1,Y1:GOTO 440
431 IFX1=87ANDY1>=202THENP=25:GOTO7000
432 IFX1=192ANDY1>=98THENP=10:GOTO7000
433 IFX1=192ANDY1>=206THENP=40:GOTO7000
434 IFX1>=44ANDY1>=200ANDPEEK(V+16)=1THEN
    P=15:GOTO7000
435 GOTO 8000
440 PRINT"FUEL:        ";F
450 RETURN

4445 IFPEEK(V+27)=1THEN8000
5000 LETX1=X1-255
5010 POKEV+16,1
5011 RETURN
5030 IFX<0THENX=X+255:POKEV+16,0:RETURN
7000 PRINT"":POKEV+21,0
```

BY IAN HUGHES

RUNS ON A COMMODORE 64

```
7001 IFGR>1THENPOKE54296,0
7010 IFGR>1THENPRINT"■YOU LANDED BUT YOU HIT RATHER TO HARD"
7020 IFGR>1THENPRINT"SO SORRY BUT YOUR WOUNDS ARE VERY BAD"
7030 IFGR>1THENPRINT"MIND YOU I LIKE THE 5 MILE CRATER IDEA"
7041 IFGR>1THENGOTO8102
7042 PRINT"◣WELL DONE YOU LANDED SAFELY"
7043 IFGR<=0THENRG=10
7044 IFGR<=.2ANDGR>0THENRG=9
7045 IFGR>=.3THENRG=7
7046 IFGR>=.7THENRG=3
7047 IFGR>=.8THENRG=1
7049 P%=RG*P+(RND(0)*5)+1:P=P%
7050 POKE54296,15
7051 POKE54277,9:POKE54276,33
7059 FORT=1TO30:NEXT
7065 READHF
7066 READLF
7077 IFLF=-1THENPOKE54273,0:POKE54272,0:GOTO7081
7078 POKE54273,HF:POKE54272,LF
7080 POKE 54276,0:GOTO7051
7081 FORC=1TO10
7083 PRINT"                                                    "
7085 PRINT"■■A GOOD LANDING ■POINTS:";P;""
7087 FORV=1TO100:NEXTV:NEXTC:GOTO8102
7100 DATA22,227,25,177,28,214,22,227,19,63
7111 DATA22,227,28,214,38,126,38,126,36,85,34,75,22,227,28,214,22,227,19,63
7112 DATA22,227,25,177,28,214,22,227,19,63,22,227,28,214,22,227,19,63
7113 DATA22,227,28,214,38,126,38,126,36,85,34,75,-1,-1
8000 POKE54296,15
8050 FORYY=1TO2
8051 FORY=1TO20
8065 POKE53281,0:POKE53281,1:POKE53281,0
8069 NEXTY
8070 POKE54296,15:POKE54277,17:POKE54272,1:POKE54276,129
8072 POKE54273,(3*RND(0))+5
8082 POKEV+28,1:FORX=1TO300:POKE54278,32:NEXT:POKEV+28,0
8083 NEXTYY
8085 POKEV+21,0
8086 POKE54276,0:POKE54277,0
8087 POKE53281,2
8102 PRINT
8103 PRINT"ANOTHER GAME Y OR N"
8104 POKE198,0
8110 INPUTA$
8120 FOR C=1TO LEN(A$):IFMID$(A$,C)="Y"THENRUN
8121 NEXTC
8130 PRINT"BYE THEN":END
9000 IFPEEK(197)=4THEND=15
9001 IFPEEK(197)=5THEND=10
9006 POKE54296,D:POKE54277,9:POKE54278,128
9007 POKE54276,129:POKE54273,6:POKE54272,18
9015 RETURN
9030 PRINT"■ YOU ARE ON A MISSION FOR THE FEDERATIONWHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU";
9040 PRINT" DETECT A FAULT ON BOARD YOUR SHIP.THERE IS ONLY ONE    COURSE OF";
9050 PRINT" ACTION, YOU MUST ATTEMPT A    FORCED LANDING ON THE PLANET QWARRK."
9060 PRINT"FOR YOU THERE ARE SEVERAL DIFFICULTIES:"
9070 PRINT"■■1.■THERE ARE ONLY A FEW LANDING SITES"
9080 PRINT"■■2.■THE GRAVITY IS STRONG,PULLING YOU TO    DOOM"
9090 PRINT"■■3.■YOUR ENGINES ARE SPLUTTERING AND USING  FUEL QUICKLY"
9100 PRINT"■■4.■YOU MUST LAND GENTLY USING 1/2 ENGINES"
9110 PRINT"■5.■THE WALLS ARE MADE OF ANTI-MATTER,THEY  ARE DEADLY TO TOUCH"
9111 INPUT"■◣PRESS RETURN KEY";A$:RETURN
```



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As a pilot testing the latest star ship, breakdown in your guidance systems causes you to materialise in the breeding grounds of the Psigophorus, an unbelievably nasty insect life form which kills anything entering its space. Survival depends on destruction of the eggs before they hatch to form a SWARM. They can use your laser energy to mutate at an alarming rate and the only escape from the devastating attack of a Swarm is by destroying the Psigophorus in only one brief stage of its life cycle.
CAN YOU SURVIVE this high scoring game?

ARCADE

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by Andrew Haisley
It is the 23rd Century – unemployment 99.9% – due to 300% inflation, money replaced by credit discs – to relieve boredom the I.R.S.P. sets up huge gambling arcades – debts run high – inhabitants who cannot pay take part in "THE GAME". Transported to Launch Base 3 they are sealed into a Zelton Earth Defender and attacked by waves of mutant birds, specially bred on the Space Station Alien. Moneylenders bet on the length of the ill-fated player's survival, so recovering their losses. SET your body modulator to HYPERDRIVE: PRIME your firing fingers and HANG LOOSE.
High scoring game.

ARCADE

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THUNDERFLASH
by Andrew Haisley
The year 2500 A.D. has produced a problem: space Rats are using humanoids for experimentation! Their technical skills include impenetrable defence systems. A Royal Space Fleet Pilot sent to destroy them has been killed: YOU ARE INVITED TO TAKE HIS PLACE.
You will be bombarded by zig-zagging steel arrows – if not destroyed they turn into Thunderflashes which explode when hit. Being unstable they release sparks which you must destroy before they hit you. Your survival angers the Rats who increase the speed and fury of the attack.
High scoring game.

VIC 20 16K
DRAGON 32K
MICROPOLY
by Richard Fry & Simon Lacey
Play this version of the family board game with a competent and challenging microbanker and property tycoon. State of game and board on instant recall – or the game saved.
Game for up to four players AND the computer.

VIC 20 Unexp
COBUS MAZ
by Dave Gibson
A series of ridiculously impossible layouts which our self-destructing Programmer has devised for VICtims! Just get from "A" to "B" without being blown up or eaten by a COBUS – simple? You are given five lives and five ZOGS to hyperspace a COBUS when you are cornered. Successful exit brings the reward of greater challenge with progressively difficult layouts and hidden complications. Keys require collecting in a correct order to open the door: devilish invisible mines and

TI 99/4A Ext. Basic
HOUSE OF BUGS
by Tony Frampton
The Bugs in this game will raise your blood pressure to the limits and drive spectators into a frenzy!
In this high scoring game killer bugs roam the top floors. Stay alive by clinging to the ceiling whilst they pass beneath, but you cannot seek refuge on that square again. BUNGE a Bug and gain 50 points, but he may return for his revenge – a vicious ritual followed by your paralysis and death! WATCH the Bugs go hopping mad when target scores give you the services of a Blasterer.
Fantastic graphics and sound.

TI 99/4A Ext. Basic
TANK BATTLE
by Tony Frampton
Can you hold back a relentless army of tanks, sometimes in convoy but often slipping in under the cover of their barrage of gunfire as they try to penetrate your anti tank barriers? Manoeuvre your tank controlling its gun barrel for accurate range. WATCH your salvos disintegrate the enemy. BUT BEWARE the deadly return fire. Realistic graphics and sound. Five skill levels – strategy to desperation.

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by Tony Frampton
TOP SECRET – save the world from destruction – HOW? WHY? WHEN?
Your mission starts in a large briefing room: there is a door to the East. You can see a blood stained envelope and a cold strong box, you are carrying nothing at all! TIME is running out, the robots have been activated – WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?
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An irresistible game for word puzzle enthusiasts, this program offers endless permutations. The computer will accept any list of words containing from 3 to 12 letters and conceal them within a letter grid until the player identifies them by giving the correct start position co-ordinates and direction. Program also includes two demonstration files and word save facility. Hours of enjoyment for one or more players.



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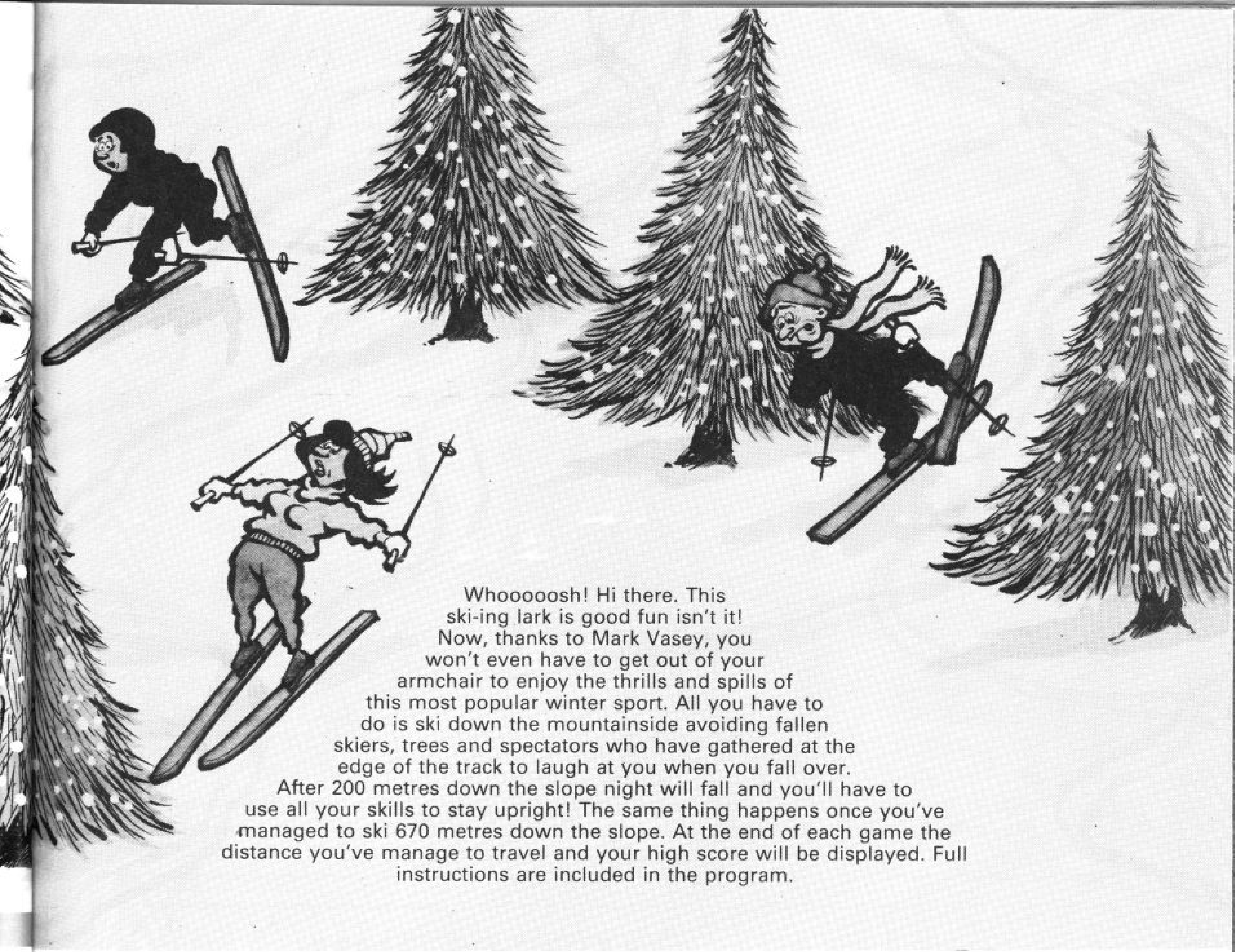
BY MARK VASEY

RUNS ON A VIC-20 IN 3.5k

```
1 PRINT"□"
2 PRINT"*****SKIER******"
3 PRINT"* BY MARK VASEY*"
4 PRINT"****************"
5 PRINT"Z=LEFT":PRINT"C=RIGHT"
7 PRINT"■PLEASE WAIT"
10 POKE51,255:POKE52,27:POKE55,255:POKE
   56,27
20 FORI=0TO511
30 POKE7168+I,PEEK(32768+I):NEXT
35 FORI=0TO46:READA
40 POKE7168+I+(N*8),A:NEXT
50 POKE36869,255
60 DATA24,60,90,153,60,90,153,24
70 DATA0,0,2,1,1,29,17,209
80 DATA24,24,30,26,18,16,25,254
90 DATA24,24,120,88,72,8,152,127
100 DATA24,153,219,189,153,24,90,231
110 DATA0,16,56,145,124,16,108,0
120 POKE36879,25:POKE36878,15
```

```
130 Z=7756:T=7:C=38476:W=36877:O=36876:
    D=36878:H=0
131 PRINT"□■■■INSTRUCTIONS":PRINT"■SKI
    DOWN SLOPE          AVOIDING:-"
132 PRINT"■■E ■SPECTATORS"
133 PRINT"■■A ■DEAD SKIERS"
134 PRINT"■■B ■TREES":PRINT"■■IT ALSO
    TURNS DARK AT 200 AND 300METRES"
135 GETA$:IFA$<>""THEN137
136 GOTO135
137 PRINT"□":FORR=135TO241:POKEO,R:NEXT:
    POKEO,0
138 FORU=0TOO
139 SC=SC+1:IFSC=22THENPRINT"■■■■■■■■■■■
    ■■■■■■■■■■■■■■■             GO          "
140 T=T+H
141 POKEW,241
142 IFSC=200THENPOKE36879,8
143 IFSC=500THENPOKE36879,8
144 IFSC=670THENPOKE36879,25
150 IFT=0THENT=1
160 IFT=8THENT=7
```

Illustration: Terry Rogers



Whoooooosh! Hi there. This ski-ing lark is good fun isn't it! Now, thanks to Mark Vasey, you won't even have to get out of your armchair to enjoy the thrills and spills of this most popular winter sport. All you have to do is ski down the mountainside avoiding fallen skiers, trees and spectators who have gathered at the edge of the track to laugh at you when you fall over. After 200 metres down the slope night will fall and you'll have to use all your skills to stay upright! The same thing happens once you've managed to ski 670 metres down the slope. At the end of each game the distance you've manage to travel and your high score will be displayed. Full instructions are included in the program.

PROGRAM NOTES:
10-20: characters. 130-135: instructions. 137-160: ground movement. 200-230: man movement. 310-335: checks for collisions. 340-396: end routine.

```
170 PRINTTAB(T)"[illegible]E[illegible]GE"
180 POKEZ+X-22,32:POKEZ+X,32
200 IFPEEK(197)=33THENX=X-1:POKEZ+X,3
    :Y=1:POKED,15
210 IFPEEK(197)=34THENX=X+1:POKEZ+X,2
    :Y=1:POKED,15
211 GOTO310
220 POKEZ+X,4:POKED,8
230 POKEC+X,6
235 FORP=1TO10:NEXTP
240 N=INT(RND(1)*22)+1
241 V=INT(RND(1)*2)+1
242 POKE38905-N,6-V
243 POKE8185-N,V-1
249 NEXTU
250 F=INT(RND(1)*3)+1
260 IFF=1THENH=1
270 IFF=2THENH=-1
280 IFF=3THENH=0
290 O=INT(RND(1)*7)+1
300 GOTO138
310 IFPEEK(Z+X+22)=0THEN340
320 IFPEEK(Z+X+22)=5THEN350
330 IFPEEK(Z+X+22)=1THEN360
335 IFY=1THENY=0:GOTO230
336 GOTO220
340 PRINT"[illegible]YOU RAN IN TO A TREE[illegible]"
    :GOTO370
350 PRINT"[illegible]YOU RAN IN TO A
    SPECTATOR[illegible]E":GOTO370
360 PRINT"[illegible]YOU RAN IN TO
    A DEAD           MAN[illegible]A"
365 POKE36879,25
370 IFSC>HITHENHI=SC
371 PRINT"[illegible]YOU TRAVELLED ";SC:
    PRINT"[illegible]METRES"
372 T=7:X=0:H=0
375 POKEW,0:FORP=241TO135STEP-1:POKEQ,P:
    NEXT:POKEQ,0
376 PRINT"[illegible]HIGH DISTANCE";HI
380 PRINT"[illegible]ANOTHER GO? (Y/N)"
390 GETA$:IFA$="Y"THENSC=0:PRINT"[illegible]":
    GOTO138
395 IFA$="N"THENPRINT"[illegible]BYE!":END
396 GOTO390
```

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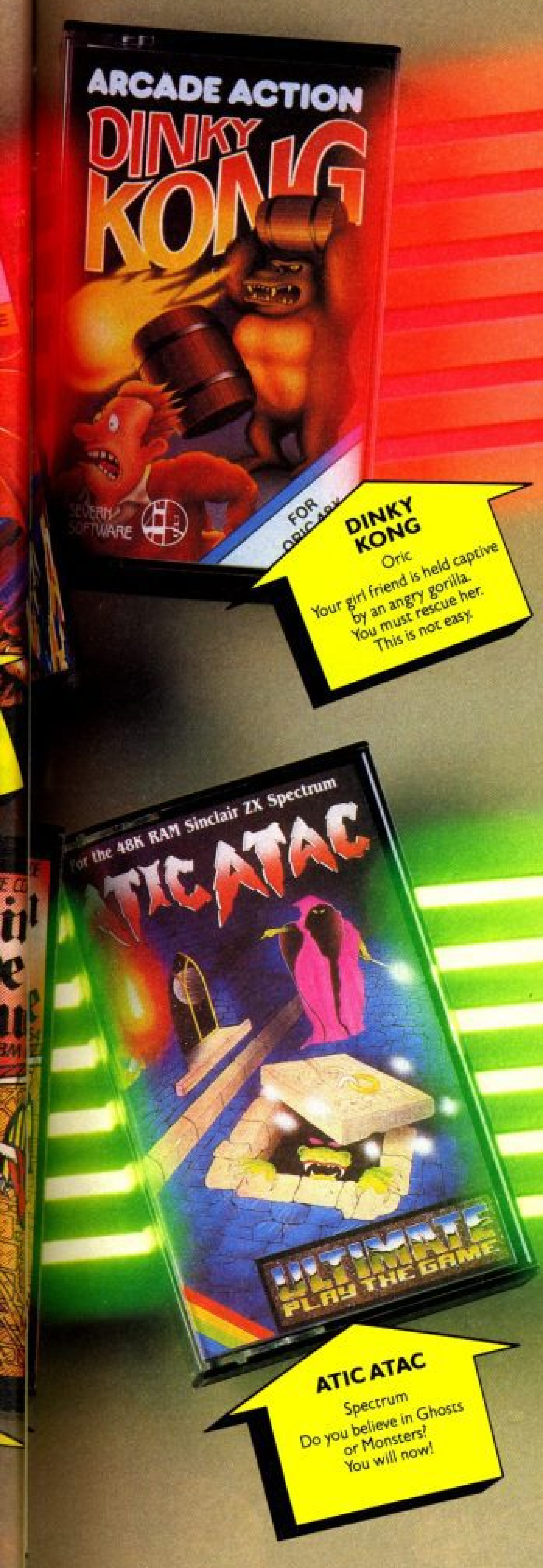
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ALIEN ATTACK

Earth is under attack! Not again, I hear you groan. Well it is, and it's up to you to stop moaning and get out there and fight those irritating aliens who keep causing so much trouble around the galaxy. Your city is defended by three laser bases — these are activated by pressing the "1", "2" and "3" keys. To kill the invaders, you must position your sight on target and fire away in a similar fashion to that arcade favourite, Missile Command. Your city is also protected by a force-field — which is gradually worn down by alien fire. If they manage to get through the force field and reach the city then you'll be destroyed!

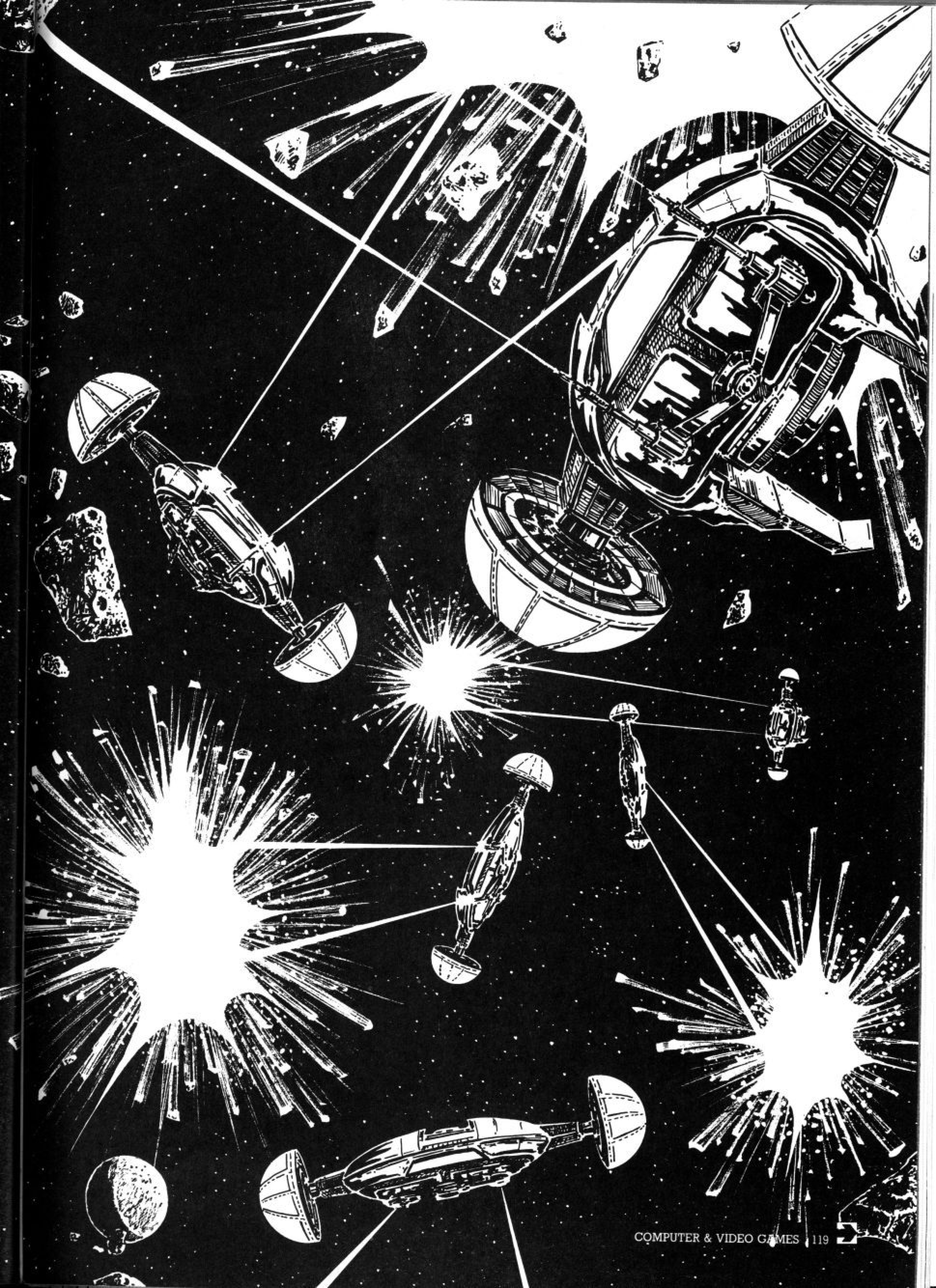
A new force field is generated after every third wave of alien attackers has been destroyed. Also after every third wave, the speed and numbers of aliens increase — but you do get bonus points for every three waves you manage to wipe out. Full instructions are included in the program.

RUNS ON A DRAGON 32

BY IAN MATHER

```
1 REM***ALIEN***ATTACK****
2 REM**BY**IAN**MATHER***
5 GOSUB7000
10 DIMA(2,2),B(2,2):PLAY"T255V31":HS=199:REM**BY**ME**
20 PMODE3,1:SCREEN1,0:COLOR4,3:PCLS
30 LINE(0,179)-(255,192),PSET,BF
40 FORN=30TO226STEP98
50 DRAW"BM"+STR$(N)+",169M+8,+9L16M+8,-9":PAINT(N,172),4,4:NEXT
60 DRAW"C2BM0,169R255"
70 FORN=0TO255STEP6:PRESET(N,169):NEXT
80 DRAW"BM10,188R4U2L4U2R4BR4NR4D4R4BR4U4R4D4NL4BR4U4R4D1M-2,+1M+2,+1D1BR4NR4U2N
R2U2R4;;C1BM100,188U4D2R4U2D4BR4R4L2U4L2R4C2;;BM180,188R4U2L4U2R4BD4BR4U4D2R4U2D
4BR4R4L2U4L2R4BD4BR4NR4U2NR2U2R4BD4BR4NU4R4BR4U4R2M+2,+1D2M-2,+1
90 A$(0)="R4U4L4D4R4":A$(1)="BR4U4D4BR2":A$(2)="NR4U2R4U2L4BM+4,+4":A$(3)="R4U2N
L2U2L4BM+4,+4":A$(4)="BR4U2NU2L4U2BM+4,+4":A$(5)="R4U2L4U2R4BD4":A$(6)="R4U2L4D1
U3R4BD4":A$(7)="BR4U4L4BM+4,+4":A$(8)="R4U4L4D3U1R4D2":A$(9)="R4U4L4D2R4D2"
95 GOSUB6010
100 DRAW"C1BM0,7M+2,-1U6R2D6NM+2,+1U1R2U4L6D4":PSET(2,2,3):PSET(4,2,3):SC=0:B=1
110 GET(0,0)-(7,7),A
120 DRAW"C2BM0,8BR2D7R2U7D3R2L6D1R6
130 GET(0,8)-(7,16),B
140 LINE(0,0)-(20,20),PRESET,BF
145 POKE65494,0:X=16:Y=10:ME=4:RR=9:W=0
150 IFB>5THENB=5
153 C(1)=B*2:C(2)=B*2:C(3)=B*2:IFME>9THENME=9
154 COLOR4,3:LINE(232,188)-(240,180),PSET,BF:COLOR2,3
156 DRAW"BM232,188"+A$(ME)
160 FORT=1TO3:COLOR4,3:LINE((T-1)*98+26,178)-((T-1)*98+32,174),PSET,BF:COLOR2,3:
DRAW"BM"+STR$((T-1)*98+26)+",178"+A$(B*2):NEXTT
170 FORN=1TO100:PSET(RND(256),RND(160),2):NEXT
180 FORT=1TO5:L(T)=RND(12)+10:M(T)=RND(3):Q(T)=L(T):F(T)=0:NEXT
190 PUT(X*8,Y*8)-(X*8+7,Y*8+7),B
200 FORT=1TORR:IFPEEK(341)=223ANDY>0THENY=Y-1:GOSUB1000:LINE(X*8,(Y+1)*8)-(X*8+7
,(Y+1)*8+8),PRESET,BF
```

Illustration: Dorian Cross



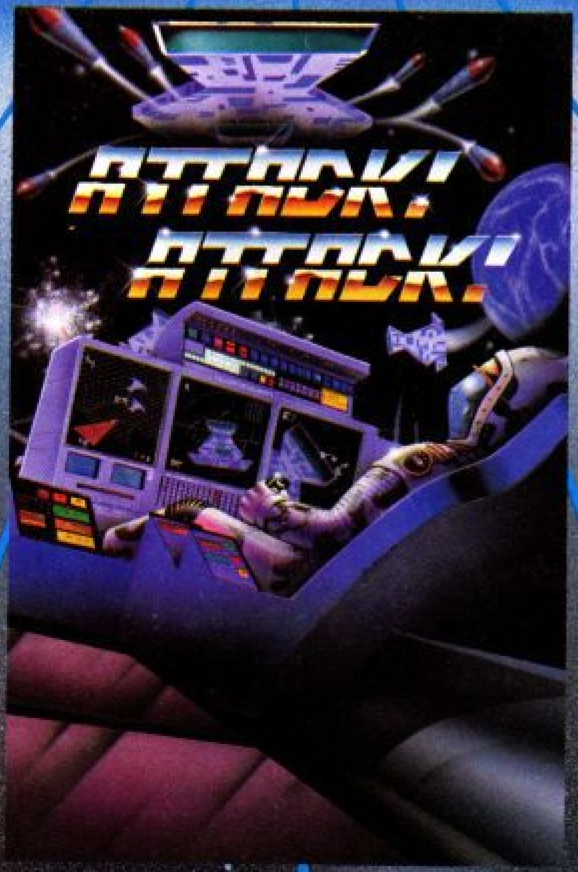


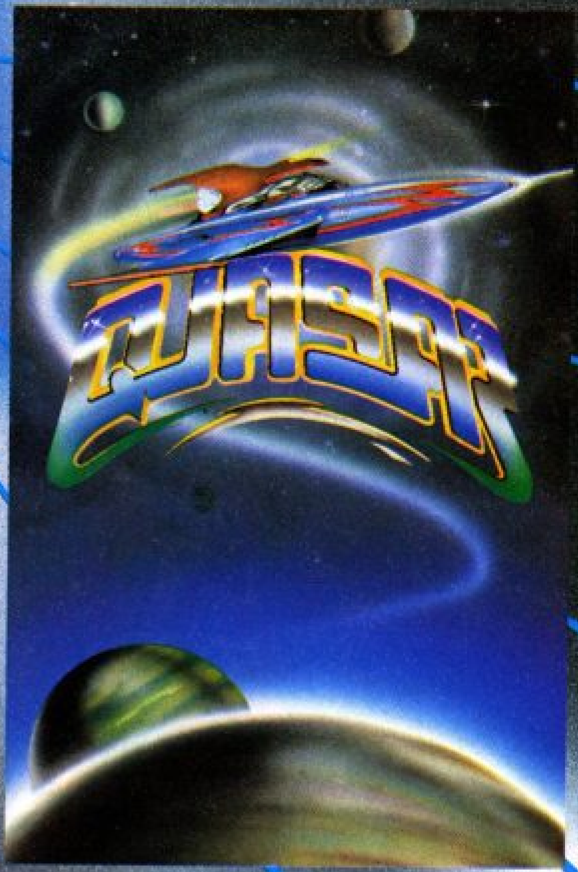
```
220 IFPEEK(342)=223ANDY<20THENY=Y+1:GOSUB1000:LINE(X*8,(Y-1)*8)-(X*8+7,(Y-1)*8+7
),PRESET,BF
240 IFPEEK(343)=223ANDX>0THENX=X-1:GOSUB1000:LINE((X+1)*8,Y*8)-((X+1)*8+7,Y*8+7)
,PRESET,BF
260 IFPEEK(344)=223ANDX<31THENX=X+1:GOSUB1000.LINE((X-1)*8,Y*8)-((X-1)*8+7,Y*8+7
),PRESET,BF
280 A=VAL(INKEY$):IFA<1ORA>3THEN450
300 IFC(A)<1THEN460
320 U=(A-1)*98+30
340 LINE(U,167)-(X*8+3,Y*8+4),PSET
360 C(A)=C(A)-1
380 COLOR4,3:LINE(U-4,178)-(U+4,172),PSET,BF:COLOR2,3
400 DRAW"BM"+STR$(U-4)+",178"+A$(C(A))
420 SOUND235,3
425 FORJ=1TOB
427 IFF(J)=1THEN435
430 IFX=Q(J)ANDY=R(J)THEN2000
435 NEXT
440 LINE(U,167)-(X*8+3,Y*8+4),PRESET
450 NEXT
460 FORT=1TOB:IFF(T)=1THEN490ELSEPUT(L(T)*8,M(T)*8)-(L(T)*8+7,M(T)*8+7),A
464 LINE(Q(T)*8,R(T)*8)-(Q(T)*8+7,R(T,*8+7),PRESET,BF
465 Q(T)=L(T):R(T)=M(T)
470 M(T)=M(T)+1:L(T)=L(T)+INT(RND(0)*2-RND(0))
480 IFM(T)=21THEN3000
490 NEXTT
500 IFF(1)+F(2)+F(3)+F(4)+F(5)=B THEN5000
900 GOTO200
1000 PUT(X*8,Y*8)-(X*8+7,Y*8+8),B:RETURN
2000 F(J)=1:COLOR4,3:LINE(Q(J)*8,R(J)*9)-(Q(J)*8+7,R(J)*8+7),PSET,BF:PLAY"O1ABCD
EFABCCE":SC=SC+RND(10):GOSUB4000:COLOR2,3:PUT(X*8,Y*8)-(X*8+7,Y*8+7),B:GOTO440
3000 SCREEN1,1:PLAY"O2ABCDEFO3ABCDEFO4ABCDEF"
3005 COLOR4,3:LINE(232,188)-(240,180),PSET,BF:COLOR2,3:DRAW"BM232,188"+A$(ME-1)
3010 F(T)=1:ME=ME-1:IFME<1THEN6000
3015 LINE(Q(T)*8,R(T)*8)-(Q(T)*8+7,R(T)*8+7),PRESET,BF:SCREEN1,0:GOTO490
4000 A$=STR$(SC):COLOR4,3:LINE(60,188)-(94,180),PSET,BF:COLOR2,3:DRAW"BM60,188":
FORE=2TOLEN(A$):DRAW A$(VAL(MID$(A$,E,1)))+"BR4":NEXT:RETURN
5000 W=W+1:POKE65495,0
5010 POKE65493,0:IFRR>4ANDW>1THENRR=RR-.5
5020 IFW/3=INT(W/3)THENFORN=1TO10:SC=SC+RND(W):SOUND100,1:GOSUB4000:NEXT:B=B+1:P
OKE65494,0:FORN=1TO31STEP3:FORNN=1TO10STEP2:PLAY"O2V"+STR$(N)+";"+STR$(NN):NEXTN
N,N:POKE65495,0:ME=ME+1:GOTO150ELSE180
6000 SCREEN1,0:FORN=1TO4000:NEXT
6004 IFSC>HS THENHS=SC
6005 IFINKEY$=""THEN6005ELSE20
6010 A$=STR$(HS):COLOR4,3:LINE(118,182)-(158,188),PSET,BF:COLOR1,3:DRAW"BM120,18
8":FORE=2TOLEN(A$):DRAWA$(VAL(MID$(A$,E,1)))+"BR4":NEXT:COLOR2,3:RETURN
7000 CLS:PRINT:PRINT"          alien attack"
7010 PRINT:PRINT"  EARTH IS UNDER ATTACK AND IT    IS UP TO YOU TO STOP THE
   ALIENS.                       YOUR CITY CAN BE DEFENDED BY     3 LAZER BASES
.WHICH ARE FIRED    BY PRESSING THE '1','2'OR'3'     KEY."
7020 PRINT"  TO KILL THE INVADERS YOU MUST   POSITION THE SIGHT ON TARGET     AND
 FIRE ONE OF THE LAZERS."
7030 PRINT:PRINT"   PRESS ANY KEY TO CONTINUE"
7035 SCREEN0,1
7040 IFINKEY$=""THEN7040
7050 CLS:PRINT:PRINT"  IF THE ALIENS REACH THE GROUND   THEY WILL BE STOPPED BY A
       FORCEFIELD(IF THERE IS ONE).     EVERY 3 WAVES OF ALIEN A NEW    SHIELD IS
 GENERATED"
7060 PRINT"  IF THERE IS NO FORCEFIELD          THEN YOU AND YOUR CITY WILL      BE
DESTROYED.                  TO MAKE THINGS WORSE FOR YOU     THE NUMBER AND SPEE
D OF THE      ALIENS WILL INCREASE.              EVERY 3 WAVES BONUS POINTS     WIL
L BE AWARDED"
7070 PRINT"    press any key to start"
7075 SCREEN0,1
7080 IFINKEY$=""THEN7080
7090 RETURN
```



We're not quite sure whether the World's ready for these games . . . but we've released them just the same.







The Marcon Empire have invaded Earth and enslaved the population. An endless stream of stellafreighters now plunder the earth's mineral wealth, draining the very lifeblood of the planet.
A small band of freedom fighters are still operating from an abandoned mining station on the Moon; one of them is you.
As you set out from your secret base your first objective is to manoeuvre through the barrier of lethal space mines to one of the enemy re-charging stations to re-charge your neodinium lasers; then you will be able to carry on with your mission of destroying the marauding stellafreighters.
There is rumour of a Marcon munition station near by, heavily defended by missiles. If only you could locate and plunder it; your heroic band of avengers would then have enough fire power to strike a massive blow for freedom . . . or die in the attempt . . .
Avenger is for the Dragon 32.

Tension mounts as your Stratofighter enters the patrol area. Enemy Skyfreight Convoys are increasing as their need for Irridon Ore grows in the arms race against you.
Your raydon missile sight picks up an enemy convoy entering your quadrant. You select hyperdrive and are slammed back in your seat. Fingers hover over firing buttons as enemy fighters peel away from the convoy to engage you. As your epic battle begins the enemy Skyfreighters unleash wave after wave of air to air missiles against you. The battle rages on and your will to survive and determination to win increases. The convoy must be destroyed; your people are depending on you.
Night falls and glaring explosions fill the sky; don't let your concentration wander, if the convoy gets through your people are doomed, you must succeed, you must. . . .
Attack Attack is for the Commodore 64.

Your mission: destroy the Etron rocket base on the planet Hagon.
Piloting the most sophisticated space fighter yet conceived you know that if your mission fails the awesome Etron rocket attacks will destroy your galaxy.
Entering the fearsome space tunnel, the first of Hagons many sophisticated defence systems, every fibre of your being is filled with dread.
The Hagon fleet have been alerted and wave after wave of Astrofighters come hurtling toward you. As you battle your way to the end of the tunnel you begin to realise just how suicidal this mission could be.
Zooming through Hagon's defensive asteroid belt your concentration intensifies; you have only a fraction of a second to differentiate between asteroids, space mines and Etron rockets as they flash toward you.
Hugging the planet's surface, dodging defence poles and trying to deal with everything else the Hagon's throw at you, you remind yourself that the fate of an entire galaxy rests on the outcome of your mission; you must succeed . . . Quasar is for the Commodore 64.

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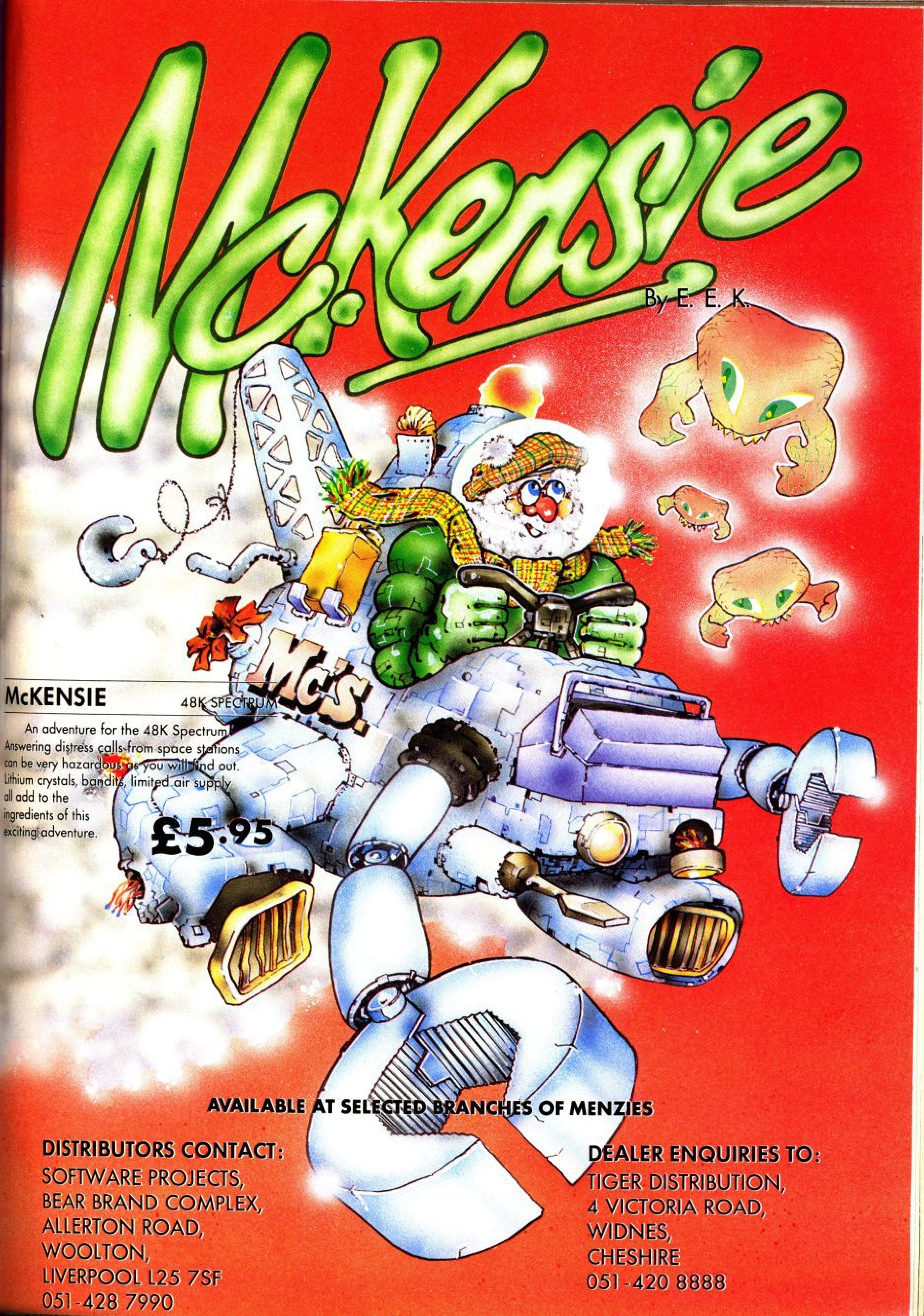
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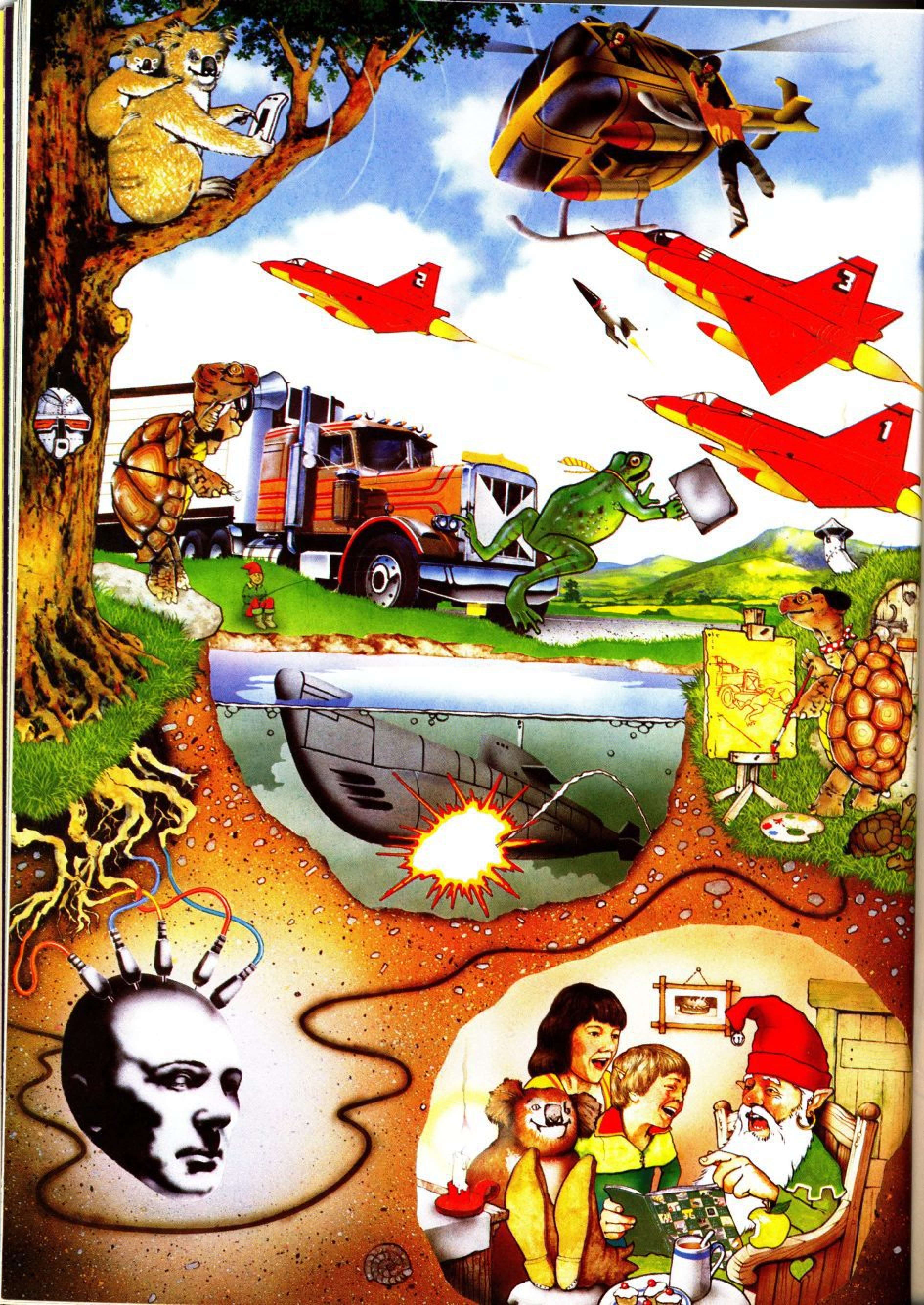
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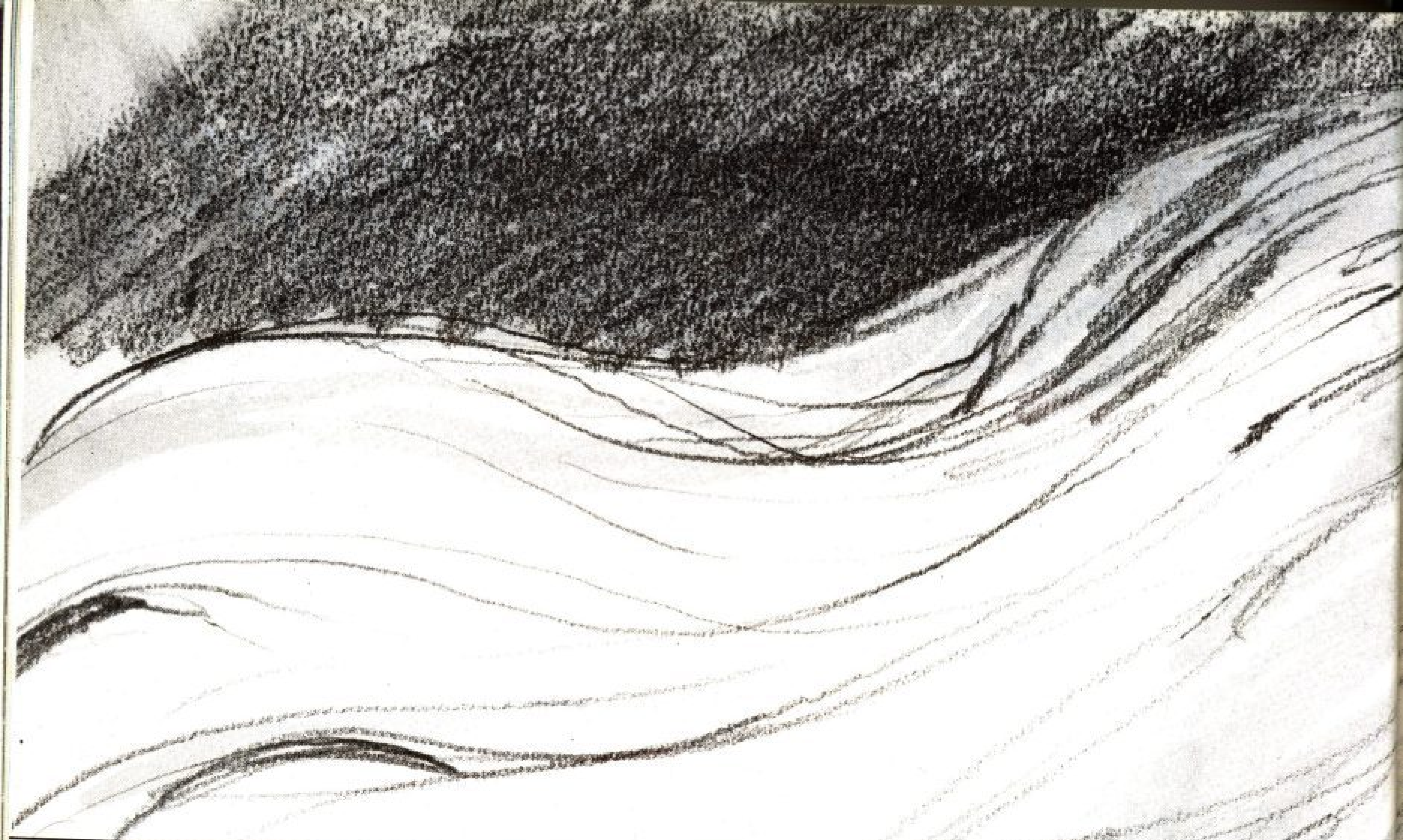


Illustration: John Davis

BY DAVID WATERFIELD

RUNS ON A BBC IN 32K

REVERSI

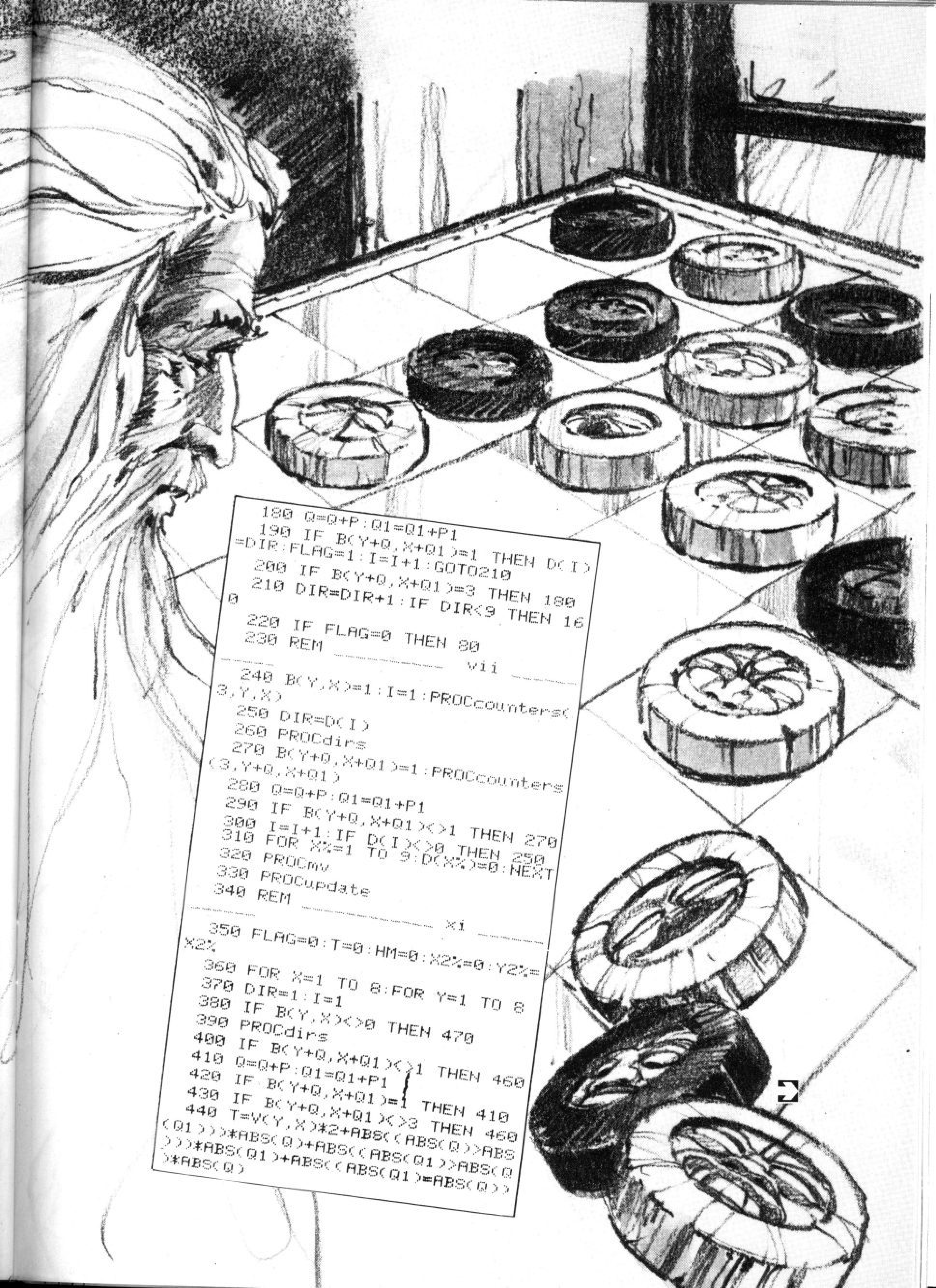
Reversi, like chess, is one of the most popular board game conversions among micro owners. The rules for the Beeb version are exactly the same as the standard game — the difference is that in this version you are up against the computer and not a human opponent.

The rules of the game are very simple. You cannot place one of your pieces next to a counter of your own colour. Each player takes alternate turns to place a counter on the board. If any player can't move or doesn't wish to move for tactical reasons, the play can be passed to the opponent.
The object of the game is trap a row of your opponent's counters between your pieces. If you succeed, all the pieces that have been captured change to your playing colour. The best winning tactic is to occupy as many of the corner squares as you can. This puts you in a powerful position, allowing you to attack the computer's pieces without endangering your own counters.

At the beginning of a game, you are given the option of moving first or allowing the computer to do so. To enter a move simply press the number of the square you wish to move — followed by the corresponding letter. Illegal moves will be rejected and if you cannot move you should enter "I".

At the end of a game, when the board is full or when neither player can move, the score is added up and the winner announced.

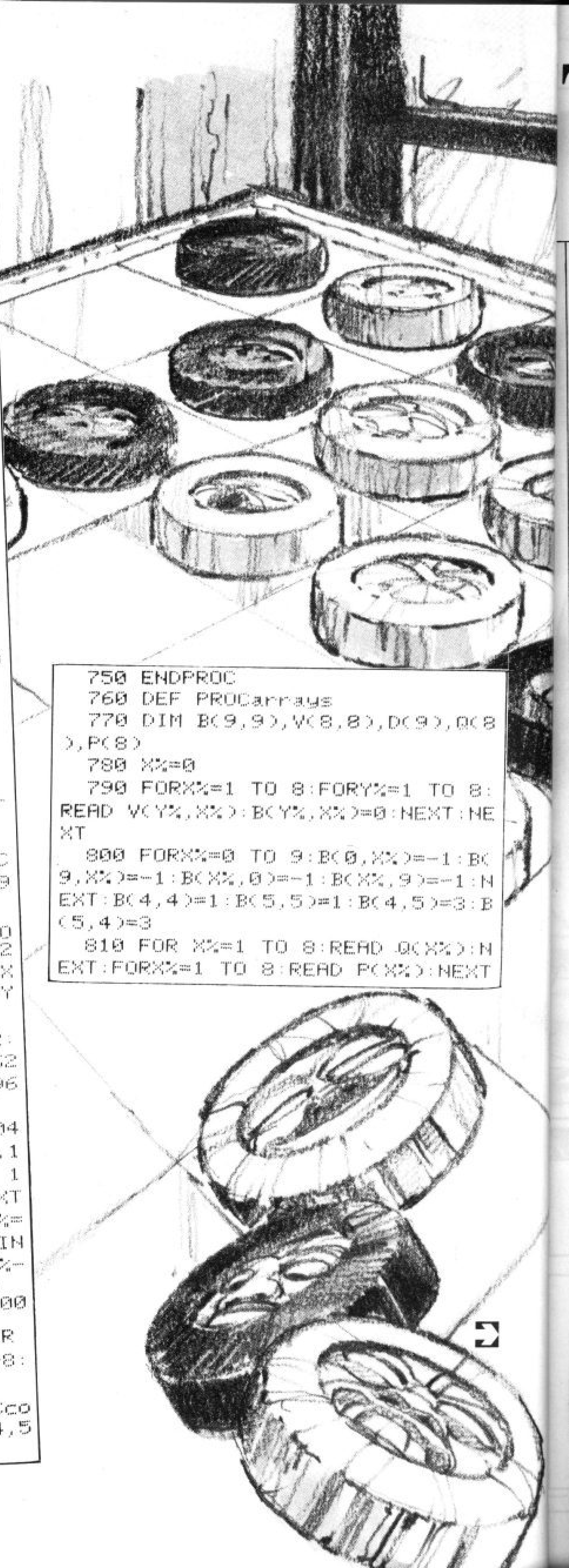
```
   10 MODE 1:MV=4:PM%=0
   20 PROCarrays
   30 PROCboard
   40 PROCumove
   50 IF A$="n" THEN PRINTTAB(7,
29)SPC30;TAB(7,29)"";:PROCrandom
:GOTO 520
   60 IF A$<>"y" THEN 40
   70 GOTO 90
   80 PRINTTAB(8,29)SPC10;TAB(7,
29)"Move illegal !";:T%=TIME:REP
EATSOUND&11,-15,51-.25*(TIME-T%)
,1:UNTILTIME-T%>200:*FX15,1
   90 PRINTTAB(0,29)SPC5;TAB(18,
29)SPC20;TAB(7,29)"Your move ?";
:Y$=GET$:PRINT;Y$;",";:X$=GET$:P
RINT;CHR$((ASC(X$))OR32);:Y=VAL(
Y$):X=(ASC(X$)OR32)-96
  100 IF X=0 AND Y=0 THEN 90
  110 IF X=9 AND Y=9 THEN PM%=1:
GOTO350
  120 IF X>8 OR X<1 OR Y>8 OR Y<
1 OR INT(X)<>X OR INT(Y)<>Y THEN
 90
  130 REM ------------ vi ----------
-----
  140 DIR=1:I=1:FLAG=0
  150 IF B(Y,X)<>0 THEN 80
  160 PROCdirs
  170 IF B(Y+Q,X+Q1)<>3 THEN 210
```



```
180 Q=Q+P:Q1=Q1+P1
190 IF B(Y+Q,X+Q1)=1 THEN D(I)
=DIR:FLAG=1:I=I+1:GOTO210
200 IF B(Y+Q,X+Q1)=3 THEN 180
210 DIR=DIR+1:IF DIR<9 THEN 16
0
220 IF FLAG=0 THEN 80
230 REM ________________ vii ______
240 B(Y,X)=1:I=1:PROCcounters(
3,Y,X)
250 DIR=D(I)
260 PROCdirs
270 B(Y+Q,X+Q1)=1:PROCcounters
(3,Y+Q,X+Q1)
280 Q=Q+P:Q1=Q1+P1
290 IF B(Y+Q,X+Q1)<>1 THEN 270
300 I=I+1:IF D(I)<>0 THEN 250
310 FOR X%=1 TO 9:D(X%)=0:NEXT
320 PROCmv
330 PROCupdate
340 REM ________________ xi ______
350 FLAG=0:T=0:HM=0:X2%=0:Y2%=
X2%
360 FOR X=1 TO 8:FOR Y=1 TO 8
370 DIR=1:I=1
380 IF B(Y,X)<>0 THEN 470
390 PROCdirs
400 IF B(Y+Q,X+Q1)<>1 THEN 460
410 Q=Q+P:Q1=Q1+P1
420 IF B(Y+Q,X+Q1)=1 THEN 410
430 IF B(Y+Q,X+Q1)<>3 THEN 460
440 T=V(Y,X)*2+ABS((ABS(Q)>ABS
(Q1)))*ABS(Q)+ABS((ABS(Q1)>ABS(Q
)))*ABS(Q1)+ABS((ABS(Q1)=ABS(Q))
)*ABS(Q)
```

```
  450 IF T>HM OR X=X2% AND Y=Y2%
 THEN D(I)=DIR:I=I+1:D(I)=0:FLAG
=1:HM=T:X2%=X:Y2%=Y
  460 DIR=DIR+1:IF DIR<9 THEN 39
0
  470 NEXT:NEXT
  480 IF FLAG=0 THEN PRINT TAB(7
,29)SPC(20);TAB(7,29)"I can't mo
ve ! ";:T%=TIME:REPEATUNTILTIME-
T%>300:*FX15,1
  490 IF FLAG=0 AND PM%=1 THEN P
ROCend ELSE PM%=0
  500 IF FLAG=0 THEN 90
  510 REM __________ xiii ________
___
  520 PRINTTAB(17,29)SPC(10);TAB
(7,29)"My move ";Y2%;",";CHR$(X2
%+96);:Y=Y2%:X=X2%:*FX15,1
  530 PROCcounters(1,Y,X):D%=INK
EY(150)
  540 B(Y,X)=3:I=1:PROCcounters(
0,Y,X)
  550 DIR=D(I)
  560 PROCdirs
  570 B(Y+Q,X+Q1)=3:PROCcounters
(0,Y+Q,X+Q1)
  580 Q=Q+P:Q1=Q1+P1
  590 IF B(Y+Q,X+Q1)<>3 THEN 570
  600 I=I+1:IF D(I)<>0 THEN 550
  610 FORX%=1 TO 9:D(X%)=0:NEXT
  620 PROCmv
  630 *FX 15,1
  640 GOTO90
  650 REM ___________________________
___
  660 DEF PROCboard
  670 VDU 19,13,6;0;19,2,2;0;:GC
OL 0,129:CLG:GCOL 0,2:COLOUR 129
:COLOUR 0:Y%=-1
  680 IF RND(1)>.5 THEN 700
  690 FOR X%=-1 TO 400 STEP 4:MO
VE 640-X%,562+Y%:DRAW 640+X%,562
+Y%:DRAW 640+X%,562-Y%:DRAW640-X
%,562-Y%:DRAW 640-X%,562+Y%:Y%=Y
%+4:NEXT:GOTO710
  700 MOVE 240,162:MOVE 240,162:
PLOT 85,1040,162:PLOT 85,240,162
:PLOT 85,1040,962:PLOT 85,240,96
2
  710 GCOL 0,0:FOR X%=240 TO 104
0 STEP 100:MOVE X%,962:DRAW X%,1
62:NEXT:FOR Y%=162 TO 962 STEP 1
00:MOVE 240,Y%:DRAW 1040,Y%:NEXT
  720 A$="abcdefgh":VDU 5:FORX%=
1 TO 8:MOVE X%*100+170,1002:PRIN
T;MID$(A$,X%,1):MOVE 200,ABS(X%-
9)*100+122:PRINT;X%:NEXT:VDU 4
  730 FOR X%=440 TO 840 STEP 400
:FOR Y%=362 TO 762 STEP 400:FOR
X1%=X%-5 TO X%+10:MOVE X1%,Y%+8:
DRAW X1%,Y%-7:NEXT:NEXT:NEXT
  740 PROCcounters(3,4,4):PROCco
unters(3,5,5):PROCcounters(0,4,5
):PROCcounters(0,5,4)
```

```
  750 ENDPROC
  760 DEF PROCarrays
  770 DIM B(9,9),V(8,8),D(9),Q(8
),P(8)
  780 X%=0
  790 FORX%=1 TO 8:FORY%=1 TO 8:
READ V(Y%,X%):B(Y%,X%)=0:NEXT:NE
XT
  800 FORX%=0 TO 9:B(0,X%)=-1:B(
9,X%)=-1:B(X%,0)=-1:B(X%,9)=-1:N
EXT:B(4,4)=1:B(5,5)=1:B(4,5)=3:B
(5,4)=3
  810 FOR X%=1 TO 8:READ Q(X%):N
EXT:FORX%=1 TO 8:READ P(X%):NEXT
```



The BBC Micro can now give your children a private education.

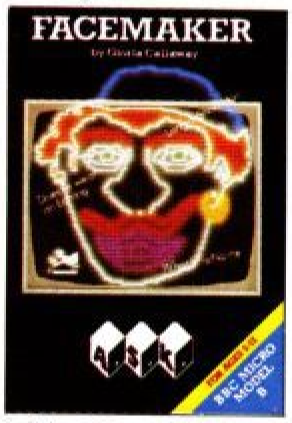
The BBC Microcomputer now accounts for 80% of the computers being ordered under the current D.O.I. Primary School Scheme.

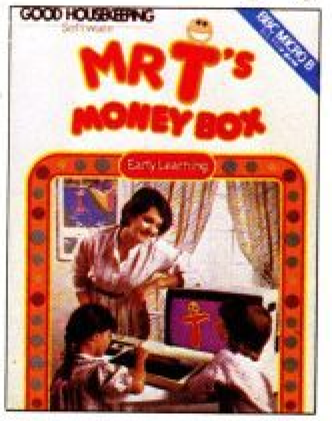
It's also the computer which a rapidly increasing number of people are choosing for their homes.

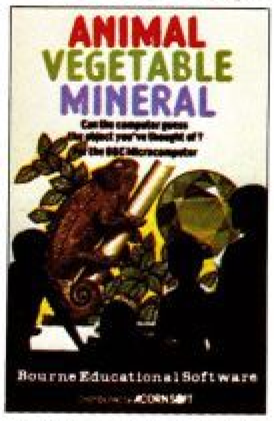
One of the reasons for its success is that it makes learning highly entertaining for everybody. From children who are getting to grips with the alphabet, to adults who want a gentle but intensive introduction to the complex world of computing.

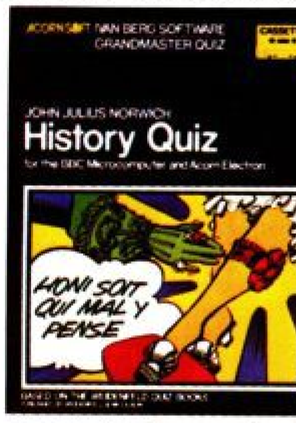
Now, there's a substantial new catalogue of educational programs specially for the BBC Microcomputer.

It has been developed by Acornsoft, the software division of Acorn Computers who manufacture the BBC Micro.









<u>Making faces without getting scolded.</u>

With the new Facemaker program, your children can make over a million faces. It's like an identi-kit, allowing them to depict anyone they want. They start by choosing the eyes. Then they can choose the mouth, the ears, the nose, the facial outline and the hairstyle.

And if they really fancy dressing up, they can add earrings and hats.

In doing all this, they learn to read and spell, as well as developing their powers of description.

<u>The money program, two games for the price of one.</u>

Mr. T. is an engaging little figment of the microchip who can teach your children all the complexities of our coinage system.

His Money Box program has two games, each of which can be played at different levels.

In Money Match, the challenge is to collect a set of coins, matching them according to shape, size and value.

In Money Box, you can give your child and Mr. T. a helping hand to get all the coins on the screen into the box. (It's always different, because the coins on the screen are based on the small change you have to hand.)

<u>A chance to teach the Micro a thing or two.</u>

With the Animal, Vegetable, Mineral program, the children can get the computer guessing.

They think of an object. The BBC Micro has to decide what it is.

If it doesn't come up with the answer, the children can keep giving it hints.

In doing so, they are encouraged to question the difference between such things as crocodiles and alligators, or whether oil is vegetable or mineral.

The program also encourages them to consult reference books so that they can ask the computer increasingly tough questions.

<u>Questions on Julius Caesar from J. Julius Norwich.</u>

John Julius Norwich's History Quiz is one of the new BBC Micro Grandmaster quiz series which also covers theatre, crime and detection, music, science fiction and royalty.

On the history front, there are 300 brain-testing questions, covering all aspects of British history from Julius Caesar to Margaret Thatcher.

And to increase the educational value, Mr. Norwich has posed the questions from angles which will give a broader understanding of events.

<u>For the full catalogue, clip the coupon.</u>

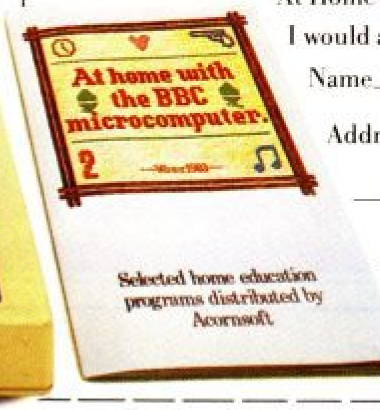
There are thirty more new BBC Micro programs in Acornsoft's new catalogue.

For a free copy, complete the coupon, or telephone 0933-79300. Or ask your local BBC Micro dealer.

If you're not yet a BBC Micro owner, you can get full details of the computer at the same time.



To Acornsoft, c/o Vector Marketing, Denington Estate, Wellingborough, Northants NN8 2RL. Please send me the new Acornsoft catalogue "At Home With The BBC Microcomputer."



I would also like details of the BBC Micro ☐ (tick)

Name__________

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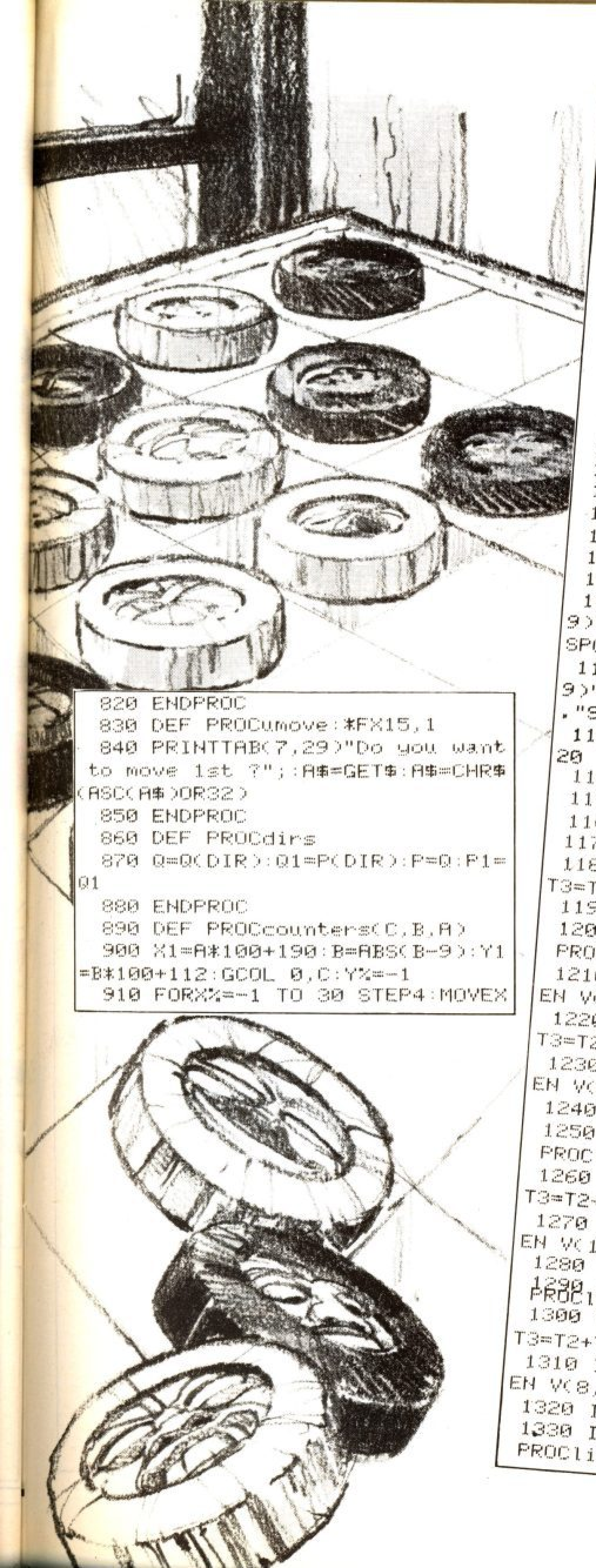
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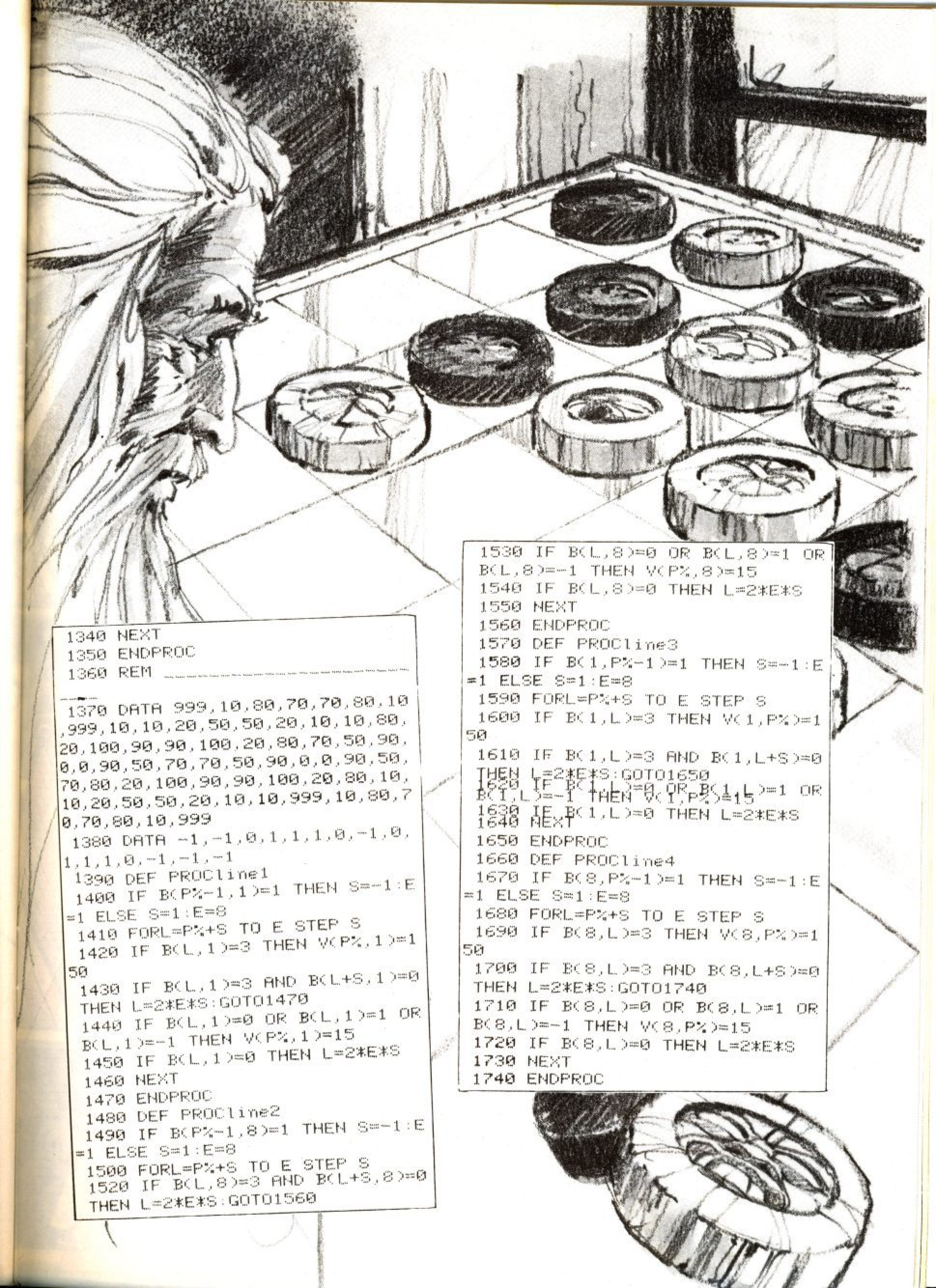
BEYOND
CHALLENGING SOFTWARE
Goodness Gracious
UP PERISCOPE
SQUACK!
SONAR contact and the depth charges tumble
S.S. Achilles
NOBODY'S GETTING THEIR CLAWS ON MY JEWEL!
RUNS ON COMMODORE 64
Death lurked under every wave
Red Alert Alien Intruder!
RUNS ON DRAGON 32
...I must keep it out of the main corridors
ATARI 400/800 WITH 48K



What's worse than being lost in space...
IN THE FURTHEST CORNER OF THE GALAXY
SPINNING SILENTLY IN SPACE
RUNS ON SPECTRUM IN 48K
... BEING FOUND!
Kriegspiel on the Dragon
COMING SOON
Kriegspiel
Plus 'Enter the Beyond' Software Club.
Absolutely free, starting next year.
Dont miss it. Send for details
by ticking the box
in the coupon
below.
SPACE STATION
Zebra
and then the Aliens came...



```
  820 ENDPROC
  830 DEF PROCumove:*FX15,1
  840 PRINTTAB(7,29)"Do you want
 to move 1st ?";:A$=GET$:A$=CHR$
(ASC(A$)OR32)
  850 ENDPROC
  860 DEF PROCdirs
  870 Q=Q(DIR):Q1=P(DIR):P=Q:P1=
Q1
  880 ENDPROC
  890 DEF PROCcounters(C,B,A)
  900 X1=A*100+190:B=ABS(B-9):Y1
=B*100+112:GCOL 0,C:Y%=-1
  910 FORX%=-1 TO 30 STEP4:MOVEX
1-X%,Y1+Y%:DRAWX1+X%,Y1+Y%:DRAWX
1+X%,Y1-Y%:DRAWX1-X%,Y1-Y%:DRAWX
1-X%,Y1+Y%:Y%=Y%+4:SOUND&11,-15,
2*(X%+2),1:NEXT
  920 ENDPROC
  930 DEF PROCmv
  940 MV=MV+1
  950 IF MV=64 THEN PROCend
  960 ENDPROC
  970 DEF PROCrandom
  980 X2%=RND(4)+2:Y2%=RND(4)+2
  990 IF X2%+Y2%=7 OR X2%+Y2%=11
 THEN 1000 ELSE 980
 1000 IF Y2%=6 THEN D(1)=1
 1010 IF Y2%=4 THEN D(1)=3
 1020 IF Y2%=3 THEN D(1)=5
 1030 IF Y2%=5 THEN D(1)=7
 1040 ENDPROC
 1050 DEF PROCend
 1060 B%=0:W%=0
 1070 FORX%=1TO8:FORY%=1TO8
 1080 IF B(Y%,X%)=3 THEN B%=B%+1
 1090 IF B(Y%,X%)=1 THEN W%=W%+1
 1100 NEXT:NEXT
 1110 IF B%>W% THEN PRINTTAB(7,2
9)"I win by ";B%-W%;" counters."
SPC10:END
 1120 IF W%>B% THEN PRINTTAB(7,2
9)"You win by ";W%-B%;" counters
."SPC10:END
 1130 PRINTTAB(7,29)"A draw."SPC
20
 1140 END
 1150 ENDPROC
 1160 DEF PROCupdate
 1170 FORP%=2 TO 7
 1180 T1=B(P%-1,1):T2=B(P%+1,1):
T3=T2+T1
 1190 IF T3=4 THEN V(P%,1)=15
 1200 IF T3=1 AND B(P%,1)=0 THEN
 PROCline1
 1210 IF T3=6 OR T3=2 OR T3=3 TH
EN V(P%,1)=100
 1220 T1=B(P%-1,8):T2=B(P%+1,8):
T3=T2+T1
 1230 IF T3=6 OR T3=2 OR T3=3 TH
EN V(P%,8)=100
 1240 IF T3=4  THEN V(P%,8)=15
 1250 IF T3=1 AND B(P%,8)=0 THEN
 PROCline2
 1260 T1=B(1,P%-1):T2=B(1,P%+1):
T3=T2+T1
 1270 IF T3=6 OR T3=2 OR T3=3 TH
EN V(1,P%)=100
 1280 IF T3=4 THEN V(1,P%)=15
 1290 IF T3=1 AND B(1,P%)=0 THEN
 PROCline3
 1300 T1=B(8,P%-1):T2=B(8,P%+1):
T3=T2+T1
 1310 IF T3=6 OR T3=2 OR T3=3 TH
EN V(8,P%)=100
 1320 IF T3=4 THEN V(8,P%)=15
 1330 IF T3=1 AND B(8,P%)=0 THEN
 PROCline4
```



```
1340 NEXT
1350 ENDPROC
1360 REM ________________________________

1370 DATA 999,10,80,70,70,80,10
,999,10,10,20,50,50,20,10,10,80,
20,100,90,90,100,20,80,70,50,90,
0,0,90,50,70,70,50,90,0,0,90,50,
70,80,20,100,90,90,100,20,80,10,
10,20,50,50,20,10,10,999,10,80,7
0,70,80,10,999
1380 DATA -1,-1,0,1,1,1,0,-1,0,
1,1,1,0,-1,-1,-1
1390 DEF PROCline1
1400 IF B(P%-1,1)=1 THEN S=-1:E
=1 ELSE S=1:E=8
1410 FORL=P%+S TO E STEP S
1420 IF B(L,1)=3 THEN V(P%,1)=1
50
1430 IF B(L,1)=3 AND B(L+S,1)=0
THEN L=2*E*S:GOTO1470
1440 IF B(L,1)=0 OR B(L,1)=1 OR
B(L,1)=-1 THEN V(P%,1)=15
1450 IF B(L,1)=0 THEN L=2*E*S
1460 NEXT
1470 ENDPROC
1480 DEF PROCline2
1490 IF B(P%-1,8)=1 THEN S=-1:E
=1 ELSE S=1:E=8
1500 FORL=P%+S TO E STEP S
1520 IF B(L,8)=3 AND B(L+S,8)=0
THEN L=2*E*S:GOTO1560
```

```
1530 IF B(L,8)=0 OR B(L,8)=1 OR
B(L,8)=-1 THEN V(P%,8)=15
1540 IF B(L,8)=0 THEN L=2*E*S
1550 NEXT
1560 ENDPROC
1570 DEF PROCline3
1580 IF B(1,P%-1)=1 THEN S=-1:E
=1 ELSE S=1:E=8
1590 FORL=P%+S TO E STEP S
1600 IF B(1,L)=3 THEN V(1,P%)=1
50
1610 IF B(1,L)=3 AND B(1,L+S)=0
THEN L=2*E*S:GOTO1650
1620 IF B(1,L)=0 OR B(1,L)=1 OR
B(1,L)=-1 THEN V(1,P%)=15
1630 IF B(1,L)=0 THEN L=2*E*S
1640 NEXT
1650 ENDPROC
1660 DEF PROCline4
1670 IF B(8,P%-1)=1 THEN S=-1:E
=1 ELSE S=1:E=8
1680 FORL=P%+S TO E STEP S
1690 IF B(8,L)=3 THEN V(8,P%)=1
50
1700 IF B(8,L)=3 AND B(8,L+S)=0
THEN L=2*E*S:GOTO1740
1710 IF B(8,L)=0 OR B(8,L)=1 OR
B(8,L)=-1 THEN V(8,P%)=15
1720 IF B(8,L)=0 THEN L=2*E*S
1730 NEXT
1740 ENDPROC
```

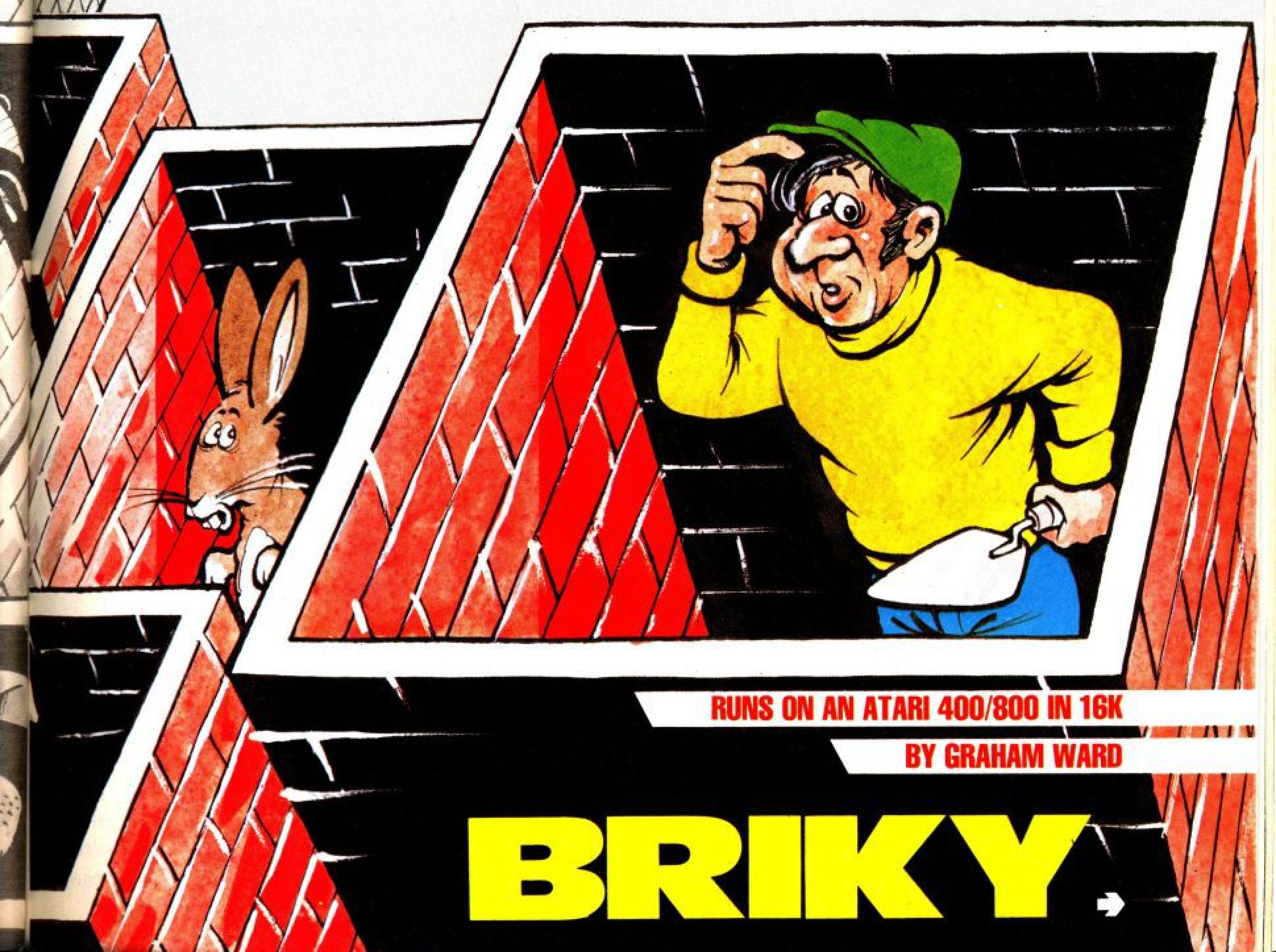
```
1 SCREEN=1
2 L=5
3 HI=-1
5 XX=10:YY=10
8 REM IN LINES 13,31,37,40 & 5000,% SHOULD BE IN
  INVERSE
9 REM IN LINE 40 & 4020,q SHOULD BE IN INVERSE
10 GOSUB 18000:GOSUB 30000:N=1
11 GOSUB 6000
12 XX=10:YY=10:COLOR ASC("@"):PLOT XX,YY
13 FOR G=0 TO SCREEN-1:COLOR ASC("%"):PLOT 0+G,1+G:
   DRAWTO 19-G,1+G:DRAWTO 19-G,23-G
14 DRAWTO 0+G,23-G:DRAWTO 0+G,1+G:NEXT G
15 SETCOLOR 0,8,2:SETCOLOR 1,14,5
16 SETCOLOR 3,0,0
17 SETCOLOR 2,3,4
18 SETCOLOR 4,0,10
19 IF N=1 AND STICK(0)=15 THEN 19
21 GOSUB 500
24 IF RND(0)>0.93 THEN GOSUB 4000
25 IF RND(0)>0.93 THEN GOSUB 2000
32 REM IN LINE 34, SCORE SHOULD BE IN INVERSE
34 N=0:Q=Q+1:POSITION 0,0:? #6;"SCORE ";Q
37 SOUND 0,121,10,10:COLOR ASC("%"):PLOT XX,YY:
   COLOR ASC("@"):XX=XX+H:YY=YY+V
38 TRAP 3000
40 LOCATE XX,YY,A:IF A=ASC("%") OR A=ASC("q") THEN
   GOSUB 5000
41 REM IN LINE 42, LIVES SHOULD BE IN INVERSE
42 POSITION 11,0:PRINT #6;"LIVES ";L;" "
43 IF A=ASC("z") THEN Q=Q+10:FOR I=1 TO 5:SOUND
   0,5,2,10:NEXT I:FOR I=1 TO 5:
   SOUND 0,10,2,10:NEXT I
45 IF L<1 THEN POSITION 3,9:PRINT #6;"GAME OVER!!"
   :GOTO 7000
46 PLOT XX,YY:T=0:SOUND 0,0,0,0
48 IF Q>100*SCREEN THEN SCREEN=SCREEN+1:L=L+1:GOTO 11
50 GOTO 21
500 IF STICK(0)=14 THEN ST=1
520 IF STICK(0)=7 THEN ST=3
540 IF STICK(0)=13 THEN ST=5
560 IF STICK(0)=11 THEN ST=7
580 IF ST=1 THEN V=-1:H=0:RETURN
600 IF ST=3 THEN H=1:V=0:RETURN
620 IF ST=5 THEN V=1:H=0:RETURN
640 IF ST=7 THEN H=-1:V=0:RETURN
2000 J=INT(20*RND(0))
2010 K=INT(20*RND(0))+4
2020 COLOR ASC("z"):PLOT J,K:RETURN
3000 IF XX<0 THEN XX=0
3010 IF XX>19 THEN XX=19
3020 IF YY<4 THEN YY=4
3030 IF YY>23 THEN YY=23
3035 Q=Q-1
3040 GOTO 46
4000 J=INT(20*RND(0))
4010 K=INT(20*RND(0))+4
4020 COLOR ASC("q"):PLOT J,K:
     RETURN
5000 IF A=ASC("%") THEN L=L-1:Q=Q-1:
     FOR I=1 TO 100:SOUND 0,255,10,
     10:NEXT T:SOUN D 0,0,0,0:XX=XX-H:
     YY=YY-V:RETURN
5010 L=L-2:Q=Q-1
5020 FOR I=15 TO 0 STEP -0.5
5025 SETCOLOR 4,15,I
5030 SOUND 0,55,8,I:NEXT I:SETCOLOR 4,0,10
5035 COLOR ASC(" "):PLOT XX+H,YY+V
5040 RETURN
5050 GOTO 5050
```



Illustration: Terry Rogers

Briky is a happy little bricklayer. He's never more content than when he's got a wall to build. But there are things that upset him — bombs and moles. Both are capable of destroying his carefully constructed walls. You can help Briky build a brave new world by guiding him around the screen. You cannot stop — so you have to be careful not to bump into your own walls. Occasionally those moles and bombs appear at random on the screen. If you build your wall over a mole, you'll get a bonus of 10 points. If you hit a bomb, you'll lose two of your five lives. After every 100 points you get a bonus life and a new screen to play in. But each screen gets smaller — making Briky's life harder. Full instructions are included in the program.

```
6000 FOR G=0 TO 15:COLOR ASC(" "):PLOT 0+G,0+G:DRAWTO
     19-G,0+G:DRAWTO 19-G,23-G
6010 DRAWTO 0+G,23-G:DRAWTO 0+G,0+G:NEXT G:RETURN
7000 IF Q>HI THEN HI=Q
7005 FOR I=1 TO 500:NEXT I:GOSUB 30000
7010 L=5:Q=0:SCREEN=1:GOTO 11
18000 REM NEW CHAR SET
18010 REM ************
18015 RESTORE 18320
18020 DIM A(8),ANS$(3),R$(1),F$(15),NAME$(12),ANS2$(3)
18040 MEMTOP=PEEK(106):GRTOP=MEMTOP-4
18060 POKE 106,GRTOP:GRAPHICS 1+16:CHROM=PEEK(756)*256
18140 CHRAM=GRTOP*256:POKE 756,GRTOP
18210 FOR N=0 TO 1023:POKE CHRAM+N,PEEK(CHROM+N):NEXT N
18260 FOR K=1 TO 4:READ R$:R=ASC(R$)
18270 IF R<32 THEN R=R+64
18280 IF R<96 THEN IF R>31 THEN R=R-32
18300 FOR I=0 TO 7:READ A:A(I)=A:B=I+R*8+256*GRTOP:
      POKE B,A:NEXT I:NEXT K
18320 DATA %
18330 DATA 126,126,126,0,231,231,231,0
18335 DATA @
18340 DATA 126,129,165,129,195,189,129,126
18350 DATA Z
18360 DATA 126,255,219,255,255,231,219,255
18370 DATA Q
18380 DATA 4,8,16,24,126,255,126,24
18500 RETURN
20000 XX=XX-H:YY=YY-V:RETURN
30000 SETCOLOR 0,8,2:SETCOLOR 2,3,4:SETCOLOR 4,0,10:
      SETCOLOR 1,14,5:SETCOLOR 3,0,0
```

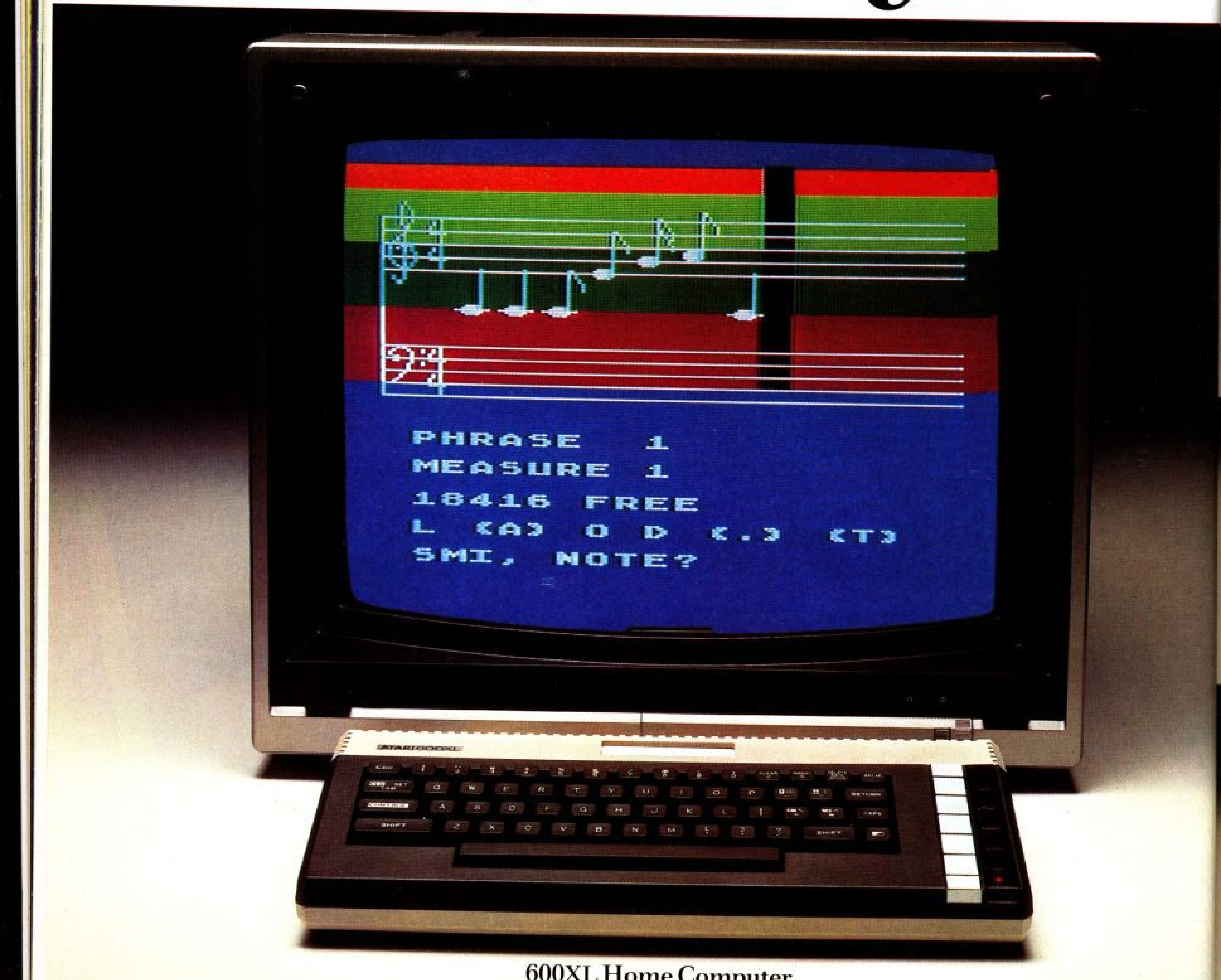


RUNS ON AN ATARI 400/800 IN 16K

BY GRAHAM WARD

BRIKY

As your child
so can your



600XL Home Computer.

If you're buying a home computer then you've probably got one major worry. That your children will soon grow out of the system you buy.

With the new ATARI 600XL™ you need have no such fear. Because the ATARI 600XL was not just designed as a home computer, it's designed to build into a complete computer system.

As your children's knowledge of computers increases, so can their home computer, simply by adding any of these extras which will be available soon.

Program Recorder. The inexpensive way to store extra programs, and use the unique Atari sound-through system.

64K Memory Module. Increase the memory from 16K RAM to a massive 64K RAM. Important, as the more memory it has the more it can do.

Touch Tablet. Creates complex on-screen graphics by allowing you to draw on the TV screen.

Trak Ball™ Controller. For a better and more sophisticated arcade style game control.

ren get bigger
r Atari 600XL.



64K Memory Module.

Touch Tablet.

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Super Joysticks.

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Disk Drive.

80 Column Dot Matrix Printer.

Letter Quality Printer.

Super Joysticks. Gives you a greater competitive edge over your games.

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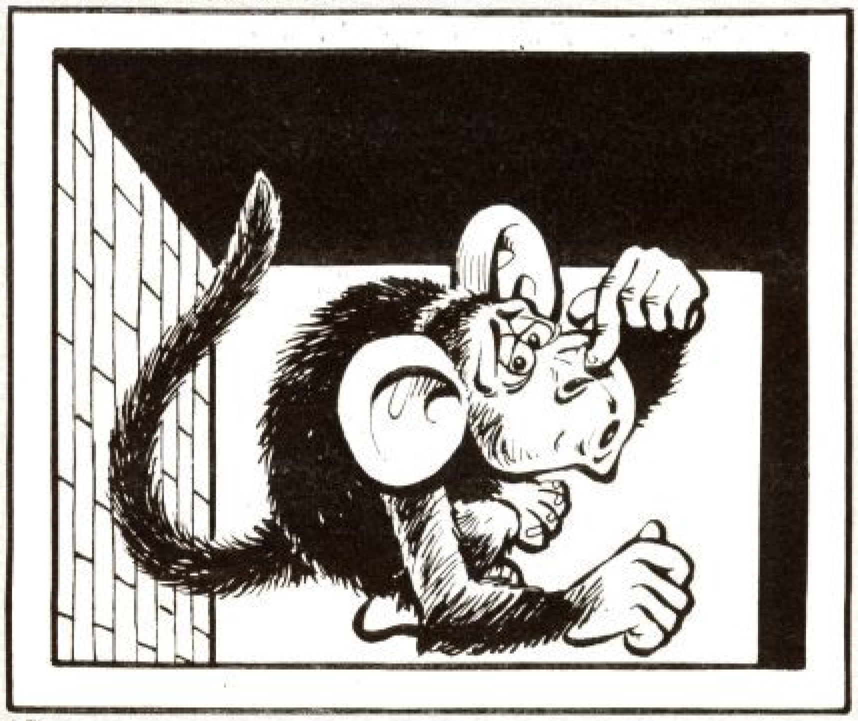
Of course, you won't need them all now. Your children have first got to learn to master the computer itself. But when they have, and believe us they will, the ATARI 600XL can handle it.

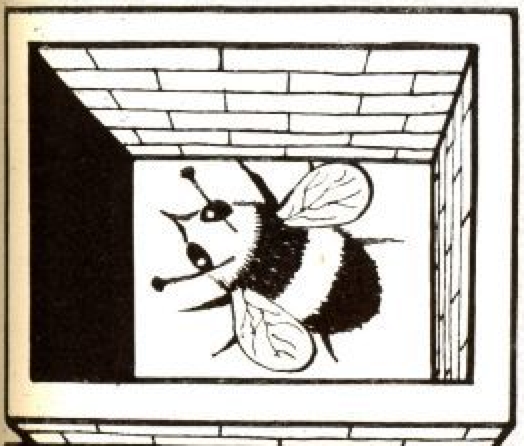
For more details write to: Atari International (UK) Inc., P.O. Box 407, Blackhorse Road, London SE8 5JH.

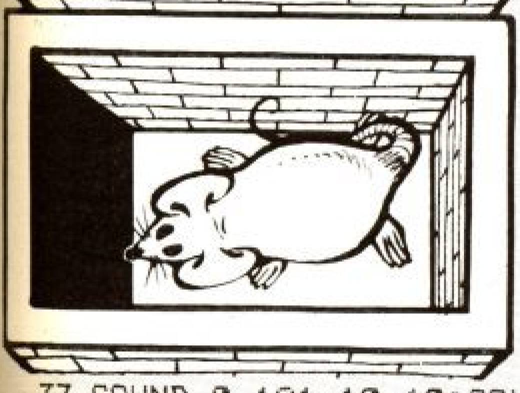
The new Atari XL home computer system.

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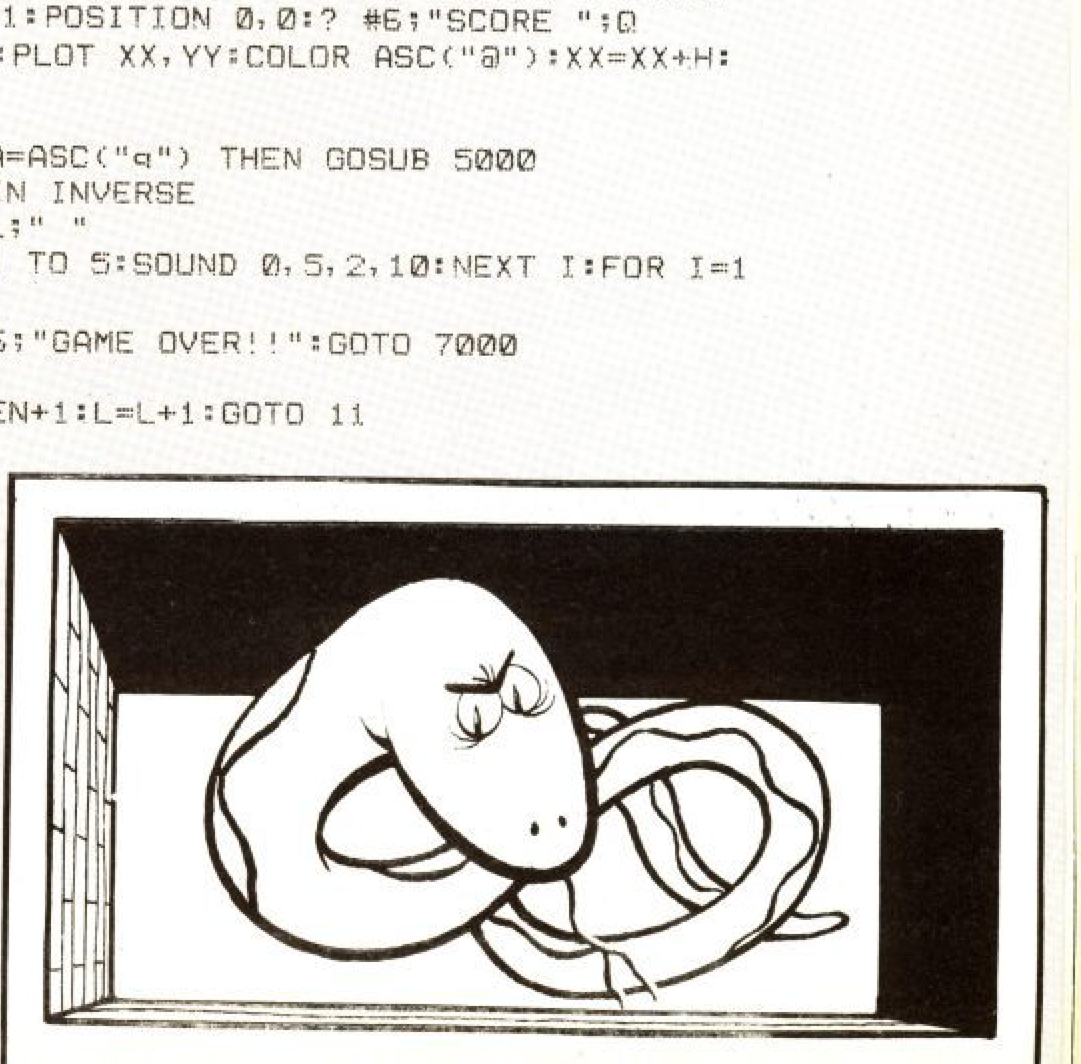
```
30002 GOSUB 6000
30003 POSITION 0,1
30005 REM ALL OF THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE PRINTED IN
      INVERSE,EXCEPT z & start
30006 ? #6;" "
30007 ? #6;" "
30008 ? #6;" "
30009 ? #6;"          z"
30010 ? #6;" %%  %%  % %  z % %"
30020 ? #6;" % % % % % %  % % %"
30030 ? #6;" % % % % % % %  %z%"
30040 ? #6;" %%  %%  % %%     %"
30050 ? #6;" % % % % % %%q    %"
30060 ? #6;" %z% % % % % %    %"
30070 ? #6;" %%  % % % %  %q %"
30080 ? #6;" "
30085 ? #6;" hi score = ";HI+1
30087 ? #6;" "
30090 ? #6;" PRESS start TO PLAY"
30100 IF PEEK(53279)<>6 THEN 30100
30120 RETURN
```







```
1 SCREEN=1
2 L=5
3 HI=-1
5 XX=10:YY=10
8 REM IN LINES 13,31,37,40 & 5000,% SHOULD BE IN
  INVERSE
9 REM IN LINE 40 & 4020,q SHOULD BE IN INVERSE
10 GOSUB 18000:GOSUB 30000:N=1
11 GOSUB 6000
12 XX=10:YY=10:COLOR ASC("@"):PLOT XX,YY
13 FOR G=0 TO SCREEN-1:COLOR ASC("%"):PLOT 0+G,1+G:
   DRAWTO 19-G,1+G:DRAWTO 19-G,23-G
14 DRAWTO 0+G,23-G:DRAWTO 0+G,1+G:NEXT G
15 SETCOLOR 0,8,2:SETCOLOR 1,14,5
16 SETCOLOR 3,0,0
17 SETCOLOR 2,3,4
18 SETCOLOR 4,0,10
19 IF N=1 AND STICK(0)=15 THEN 19
21 GOSUB 500
24 IF RND(0)>0.93 THEN GOSUB 4000
25 IF RND(0)>0.93 THEN GOSUB 2000
32 REM IN LINE 34, SCORE SHOULD BE IN INVERSE
34 N=0:Q=Q+1:POSITION 0,0:? #6;"SCORE ";Q
37 SOUND 0,121,10,10:COLOR ASC("%"):PLOT XX,YY:COLOR ASC("@"):XX=XX+H:
   YY=YY+V
38 TRAP 3000
40 LOCATE XX,YY,A:IF A=ASC("%") OR A=ASC("q") THEN GOSUB 5000
41 REM IN LINE 42, LIVES SHOULD BE IN INVERSE
42 POSITION 11,0:PRINT #6;"LIVES ";L;" "
43 IF A=ASC("z") THEN Q=Q+10:FOR I=1 TO 5:SOUND 0,5,2,10:NEXT I:FOR I=1
   TO 5:SOUND 0,10,2,10:NEXT I
45 IF L<1 THEN POSITION 3,9:PRINT #6;"GAME OVER!!":GOTO 7000
46 PLOT XX,YY:T=0:SOUND 0,0,0,0
48 IF Q>100*SCREEN THEN SCREEN=SCREEN+1:L=L+1:GOTO 11
50 GOTO 21
500 IF STICK(0)=14 THEN ST=1
520 IF STICK(0)=7 THEN ST=3
540 IF STICK(0)=13 THEN ST=5
560 IF STICK(0)=11 THEN ST=7
580 IF ST=1 THEN V=-1:H=0:RETURN
600 IF ST=3 THEN H=1:V=0:RETURN
620 IF ST=5 THEN V=1:H=0:RETURN
640 IF ST=7 THEN H=-1:V=0:RETURN
900 SPEED=0.7
```

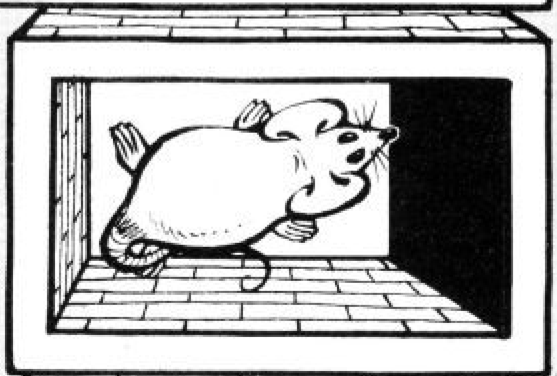


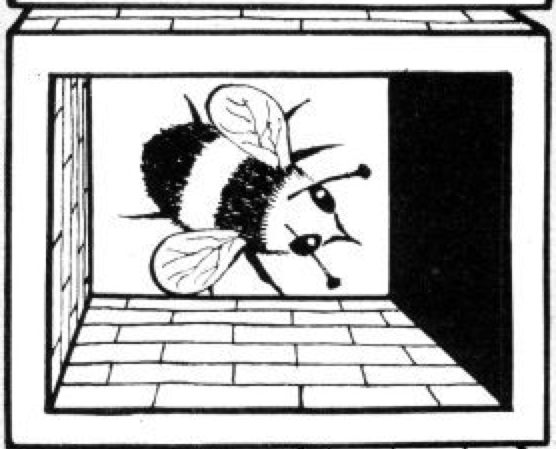


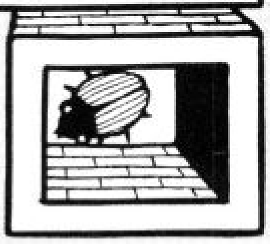
```
905 RESTORE 1000
910 TRAP 30120:READ A,B,C,D,E
912 IF E=0.5 THEN E=0.35
915 SOUND 1,B,10,7
917 SOUND 2,C,10,7
918 SOUND 3,D,10,7
920 FOR I=15 TO 2 STEP -(SPEED/E)
930 SOUND 0,A,10,I
950 NEXT I:F=F+1:GOTO 910
1000 DATA 162,64,0,0,1
1010 DATA 81,64,00,0,1
1020 DATA 128,64,0,0,.5
1030 DATA 60,000,0,0,.5
1040 DATA 57,000,0,0,.5
1050 DATA 53,00,00,0,.5
1055 REM
1060 DATA 40,128,0,0,1
1070 DATA 53,00,00,0,1
1080 DATA 60,108,0,0,1
1090 DATA 64,00,00,0,1
1095 REM
1100 DATA 243,72,0,0,1
1110 DATA 96,000,0,0,1
1120 DATA 121,00,0,0,1
1130 DATA 60,00,00,0,1
1135 REM
1140 DATA 144,47,0,0,1
1150 DATA 60,47,0,00,1
1160 DATA 121,47,0,0,1
1170 DATA 60,00,0,00,1
1175 REM
1180 DATA 162,72,0,0,1
1190 DATA 108,72,0,0,1
1200 DATA 121,72,0,0,0.5
1210 DATA 76,00,00,0,0.5
1220 DATA 72,00,00,0,0.5
1230 DATA 68,00,00,0,0.5
1235 REM
1240 DATA 162,64,0,0,1
1250 DATA 000,53,0,0,1
1260 DATA 128,60,0,0,1
1270 DATA 000,64,0,0,1
1275 REM
1280 DATA 193,72,0,0,1
1290 DATA 000,81,0,0,1
1300 DATA 114,85,0,0,1
1310 DATA 000,81,0,0,1
1315 REM
1320 DATA 217,64,0,0,1
1330 DATA 81,64,00,0,1
1340 DATA 121,72,85,0,1
1350 DATA 108,00,0,0,1
1360 DATA 162,64,0,0,1
1370 DATA 81,64,00,0,1
1380 DATA 128,64,0,0,.5
1390 DATA 60,000,0,0,.5
1400 DATA 57,000,0,0,.5
1410 DATA 53,00,00,0,.5
1415 REM
1420 DATA 40,128,0,0,1
1430 DATA 53,00,00,0,1
1440 DATA 60,108,0,0,1
1450 DATA 64,00,00,0,1
1455 REM
1460 DATA 243,72,0,0,1
1470 DATA 000,72,0,0,1
```



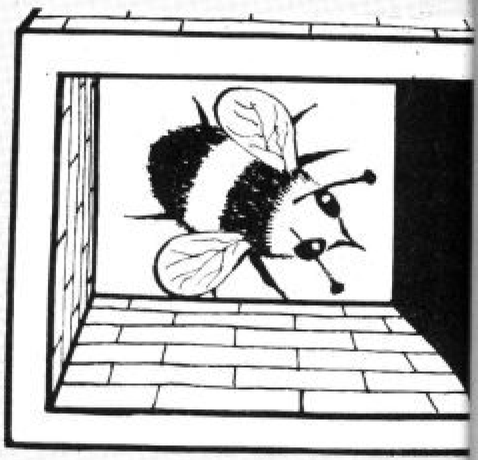
```
1480 DATA 121,00,0,0,1
1490 DATA 60,00,00,0,1
1495 REM
1500 DATA 153,47,0,0,1
1510 DATA 64,47,00,0,1
1520 DATA 108,47,0,0,1
1530 DATA 53,000,0,0,1
1535 REM
1540 DATA 144,57,0,0,1
1550 DATA 000,60,0,0,1
1560 DATA 121,64,0,0,1
1570 DATA 000,72,0,0,1
1575 REM
1580 DATA 217,81,0,0,1
1590 DATA 000,85,0,0,1
1600 DATA 108,64,0,0,1
1610 DATA 000,72,0,0,1
1615 REM
1620 DATA 162,72,0,0,1
1630 DATA 85,72,00,0,1
1640 DATA 81,128,0,0,1
2000 J=INT(20*RND(0))
2010 K=INT(20*RND(0))+4
2020 COLOR ASC("z"):PLOT J,K:RETURN
3000 IF XX<0 THEN XX=0
3010 IF XX>19 THEN XX=19
3020 IF YY<4 THEN YY=4
3030 IF YY>23 THEN YY=23
3035 Q=Q-1
```

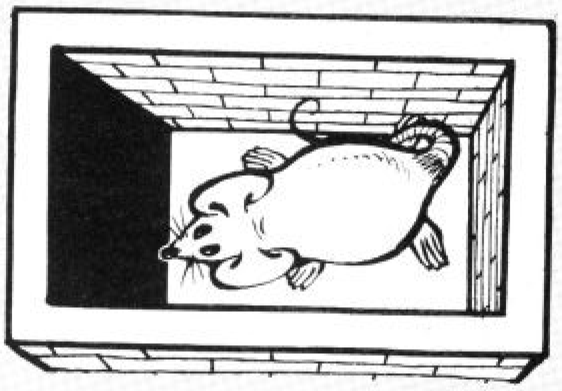






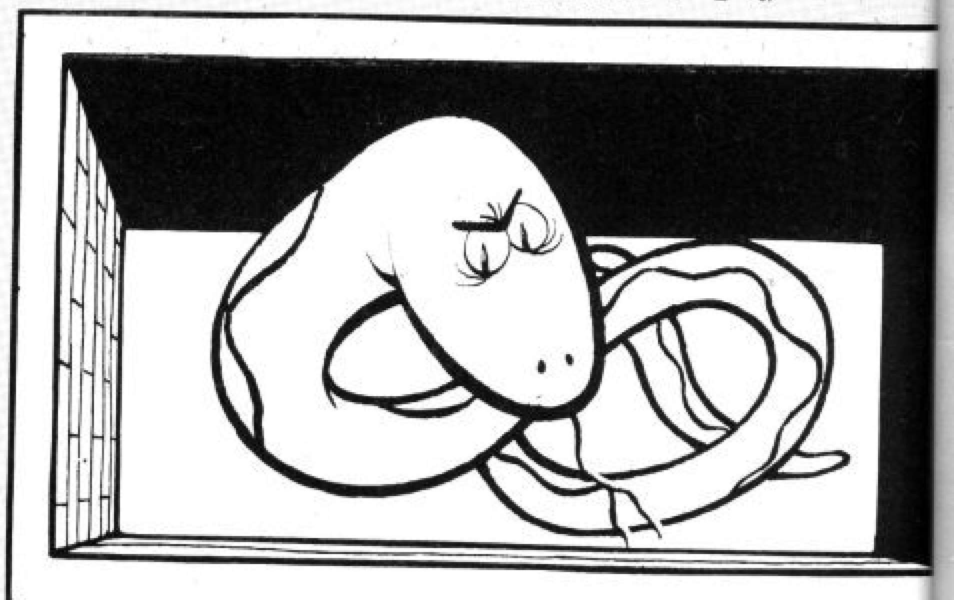
```
3040 GOTO 46
4000 J=INT(20*RND(0))
4010 K=INT(20*RND(0))+4
4020 COLOR ASC("q"):PLOT J,K:RETURN
5000 IF A=ASC("%") THEN L=L-1:Q=Q-1:FOR I=1 TO 100:SOUND 0,255,10,10:
     NEXT I:SOUND 0,0,0,0:XX=XX-H:YY=YY-V:RETURN
5010 L=L-2:Q=Q-1
5020 FOR I=15 TO 0 STEP -0.5
5025 SETCOLOR 4,15,I
5030 SOUND 0,55,8,I:NEXT I:SETCOLOR 4,0,10
5035 COLOR ASC(" "):PLOT XX+H,YY+V
5040 RETURN
5050 GOTO 5050
6000 FOR G=0 TO 15:COLOR ASC(" "):PLOT 0+G,0+G:DRAWTO 19-G,0+G:DRAWTO
     19-G,23-G
6010 DRAWTO 0+G,23-G:DRAWTO 0+G,0+G:NEXT G:RETURN
7000 IF Q>HI THEN HI=Q
7005 FOR I=1 TO 500:NEXT I:GOSUB 30000
7010 L=5:Q=0:SCREEN=1:GOTO 11
18000 REM NEW CHAR SET
18010 REM *************
18015 RESTORE 18320
18020 DIM A(8),ANS$(3),R$(1),F$(15),NAME$(12),ANS2$(3)
18040 MEMTOP=PEEK(106):GRTOP=MEMTOP-4
18050 POKE 106,GRTOP:GRAPHICS 1+16:CHROM=PEEK(756)*256
18140 CHRAM=GRTOP*256:POKE 756,GRTOP
18210 FOR N=0 TO 1023:POKE CHRAM+N,PEEK(CHROM+N):NEXT N
18260 FOR K=1 TO 4:READ R$:R=ASC(R$)
18270 IF R<32 THEN R=R+64
18280 IF R<96 THEN IF R>31 THEN R=R-32
18300 FOR I=0 TO 7:READ A:A(I)=A:B=I+R*8+256*GRTOP:POKE B,A:NEXT I:NEXT K
```



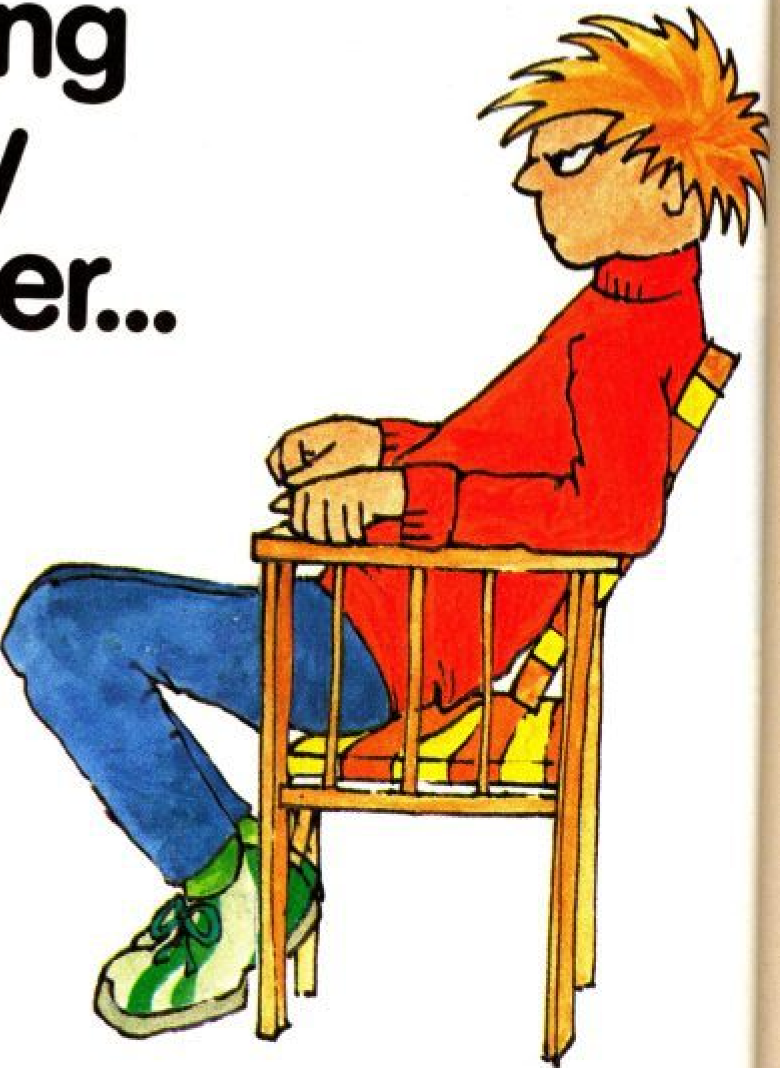


```
18320 DATA %
18330 DATA 126,126,126,0,231,231,231,0
18335 DATA ð
18340 DATA 126,129,165,129,195,189,129,126
18350 DATA Z
18360 DATA 126,255,219,255,255,231,219,255
18370 DATA Q
18380 DATA 4,8,16,24,126,255,126,24
18500 RETURN
20000 XX=XX-H:YY=YY-V:RETURN

30000 SETCOLOR 0,8,2:SETCOLOR 2,3,4:SETCOLOR 4,0,10:SETCOLOR 1,14,5:
      SETCOLOR 3,0,0
30002 GOSUB 6000
30003 POSITION 0,1
30005 REM ALL OF THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE PRINTED IN INVERSE,EXCEPT z &
      start
30006 ? #6;" "
30007 ? #6;" "
30008 ? #6;" "
30009 ? #6;"          z"
30010 ? #6;" %%  %%  % %  z % %"
30020 ? #6;" % % % % % %  % % %"
30030 ? #6;" % % % % % % %  %z%"
30040 ? #6;" %%  %%  % %%    %"
30050 ? #6;" % % % % % %%q   %"
30060 ? #6;" %z% % % % % %   %"
30070 ? #6;" %%  % % % %  %q %"
30080 ? #6;" "
30085 ? #6;" hi score = ";HI+1
30087 ? #6;" "
30090 ? #6;" PRESS start TO PLAY"
30100 IF PEEK(53279)<>6 THEN 30100
30110 GOTO 900
30120 SOUND 0,0,0,0:SOUND 1,0,0,0:SOUND 2,0,0,0:RETURN
```



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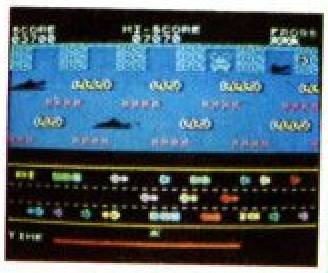
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PROGRAM EXTRA

This issue of *Computer and Video Games* is choc-a-bloc with masses of great games listings — 48 extra fun filled pages — so let's not hang about! Program Extra has two tips for micro-programmers and a new feature, Down to Basics, but let's kick off with a look at David Waterfield's game for the BBC — Reversi.

David Waterfield's game Reversi is a very good example of a well written program, tackling difficult problems with excellent ideas and short snappy programming. This is highlighted by David's approach to solving the problem of drawing up the playing board without having to write a game the length of a novel. Using FOR NEXT loops and lots of variables, David has managed to write a really compact little routine to do the job.

This has inspired Program Extra to encourage you to get programming. So we have come up with a short procedure to create a chess or draughts board on the BBC computer. The program can be easily modified to suit your needs. And if you feel like creating a brand new board game of your own it will help too!

This short program for the BBC demonstrates how it's possible, with a good programming style, to write short listings to solve problems that appear to be complex and tiresome.

Drawing a chess board is an excellent exercise to attempt, because it involves some tricky problems, but also requires the programmer to structure the routine or else succumb to writing reams of code and end up with a very messy game. The program uses two loops, one to draw each row of squares and the other to draw each column.

The IF . . . THEN statements are used to decide if a row begins with a black or white square and variables are used throughout to carry the drawing co-ordinates and the colour to be used for filling. Furthermore, the entire routine is held in a defined procedure which can be easily incorporated into any program with ease.

```
10MODE4
20Y=150:X=150
30A=1:T=100
40PROCBOARD
50END
60DEFPROCBOARD
70FORR=1TO8
80FORC=1TO8
90IFC MOD2=A THEN GCOLO,OELSE
GCOLO,7
100MOVEX,Y:DRAWX,Y+T
110DRAWX+T,Y+T
120PLOT85,X+T,Y+T:X+T
130NEXTC
140Y=Y+T:X=150
150IFR MOD2=1 THEN A=0 ELSE A=1
160NEXTR
170ENDPROC
```

In our last issue, Down to Basics discussed the merits and demerits of Basic and its rivals. This month we'll be taking a closer look at Basic's structure and hopefully get a greater understanding of how it operates. First of all we should take a look at the heart of all computers, the microprocessor.

The microprocessor is the most important chip in a computer. If you've ever seen inside a micro, chances are that the largest chip in there would have been the microprocessor itself. It is also known as the Central Processing Unit, or CPU and this name helps you understand what it does.

The CPU is the chip which controls all the others and which actually does the work when you run your program. If a calculation needs doing, which happens hundreds of times every second, the numbers are brought from the memory chips into the CPU which does the work, and then places the answer back into a memory chip.

Whenever you see something moving across the screen in a game, it is the CPU which is controlling that movement. The way it's done is to put the character you wish to move at a point on the screen. Then, after a very short delay, erase it and put it slightly further along. If you keep doing this fast enough the object will appear to move.

The important thing to realise about the CPU is that, although it can work very fast (it could easily handle many thousands of long multiplications in less than a second), it can only do one thing at a time. So if your computer is playing a game of Pacman, the computer can't move that ghosts around the screen, make the sound effects and check to see what keys you're pressing all at the same time. Programmers get round this problem by making the CPU do each job for a short time in turn. If the program is well written, this should happen fast enough to give the impression that all is happening at once.

That about winds it up for this issue except to remind you that if you have any problems with the listings in *C&VG,* or just want to learn more about how the games work, drop Program Extra a line to *Computer and Video Games,* Durrant House, 8 Herbal Hill, London EC1R 5EJ.

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JAPAN the lan

Once upon a time, Namco was a rather obscure company which manufactured small fairground rides which were placed on the top of department stores to keep the kids happy while their mums went shopping.

The turning point came when Namco bought up Atari Japan Inc. in 1974. Although Atari was the world leader in the video game industry at that time, it did rather badly in Japan due to lack of experience.

Despite some financial difficulties at the outset Namco went on to do some basic research into the American video games technology.

So it was not until 1977 that their first product, Galaxians invaded the Japanese arcades. The timing was just right. People were getting fed up with the original Space Invaders and wanted something new.

Galaxians did exceedingly well but their best seller was still a gleam in a hungry software experts eye.

When Namco released Pacman the company's profits rocketed.

The idea of Pacman was devised by one of Namco's software specialists. One day he was so hungry that he imagined himself eating a pizza. This train of thought led him to picture a pizza with a piece cut off, looking as if the bigger portion was trying to eat the smaller one. Then he thought to himself: "Why not write a game about eating?"

From this bright idea Namco's development team added various ideas such as the ghosts and the power pills and unleashed a little yellow monster on the world!

Contrary to the popular belief Pacman is Japanese; Atari merely holds the rights to produce the home computer and home video versions.

All in all the game took about 12 months to develop. The name Pacman derives from the Japanese word "paku paku" which describes the movement of the mouth when eating.

The reason for the great commercial success of Pacman — apart from the originality of the game — is attributed to

Japan was the only country in the world which had to mint more coins in order to satisfy the enormous demand created by the arcade boom caused by the original Space Invader machines. The company which created those first Invader machines made a huge killing while arcade centres and even Space Invader coffee houses sprung up like mushrooms. People queued for hours to play the Invaders.

All this led to the creation of more than 200 companies trying to cash in on the very lucrative arcade industry. This is a story of one such pioneer of the arcade video games, Namco. Virtually unknown in this country, Namco is the most exciting arcade company in Japan.

When the Space Invader boom began to wane, the game was quickly followed by the Galaxian. This development of the alien invader theme was an instant success. Galaxian was Namco's very first video game and since then the company have gone from strength to strength. Tom Sato looks at the Japanese video boom.

the fact that Namco licensed two American companies to produce Pacman for the U.S. market.

Thanks to Atari, the U.S. market is about five times that of Japan and about 10 times that of Europe.

Namco licensed Midway to produce the coin operated arcade machines and Atari to sell the home video game versions of Pacman.

Atari splashed out on a national T.V. advertising campaign and soon Pacman became a household word. The sales of the Pacman cartridge can only be described as explosive! Namco earned millions from the royalties.

The reason why Atari sued Commodore and others over breach of copyright of Pacman is simple. While Atari paid millions to Namco, Commodore and the rest of the copycats didn't pay a cent.

But the licensing of Pacman didn't stop at the video games. Soon, there was Pacman sports gear and Pacman toys everywhere.

It is said that Namco earned more than three times as much from royalties generated by the Pacman character than from the actual video game! *Time* magazine commented, in April 1982, that Pacman's income will exceed that of the movie *Starwars*!

Apparently, one cornflake manufacturer put a Pacman picture on the packaging and the sales took off.

However, all is not well for Namco. In Japan, there are people who pirate arcade games. Although it may appear to be rather difficult to produce "clones" of sophisticated arcade machines, there are a number of technological pirates about in Japan.

Namco has no less than 20 full-time detectives investigating piracy, using sophisticated spying equipment to catch the pirates.

Last year, Namco developed the now hugely successful Atari game called Pole Position. The development of Pole Position cost the company well over three-quarters of a million pounds and has some of the most convincing graphic 3D effects so far seen on an arcade machine. It incorporated some custom made integrated circuits in order to prevent the pirates making "clones" using commercially available micro-chips.

It sounds incredible — but within two months, there were pirated Pole Positions available on the black market at half the price of the original!

This time Namco was determined to catch the pirates red handed so they sent out all of their detectives to monitor known secret laboratories and hide outs.

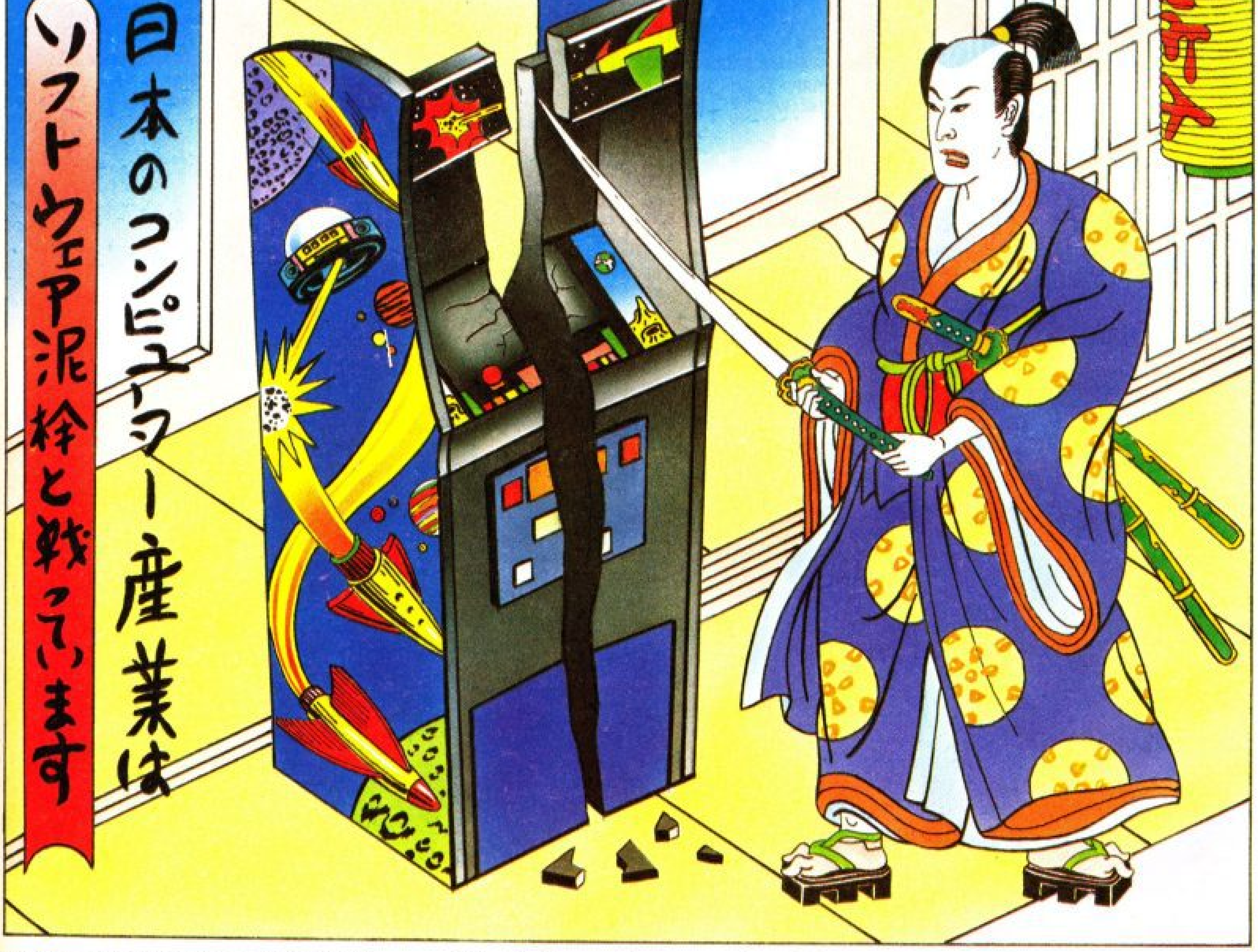
The whole operation came to a dramatic Hollywood style end when they tailed a truck believed to be on its way to pick up a consignment of illegally produced Pole Position machines.

They eventually reached a secret factory 1,000 miles away from Tokyo and apprehended several pirates and confiscated 20 "clones", renamed Top Position. Sounds like something out of *The Sweeney*, doesn't it?

So how do the pirates make these "clones"? As soon as an original arcade machine is released they get hold of one and disassemble it, obtaining photographs of the printed circuit boards and names of the chips it uses.

The custom-made chips are opened

of the rising clone



up and analysed using micro-photographic equipment. Once they work out how the chip works they then produce a circuit to do exactly the same thing.

This process is called "reverse technology" and the ironic thing is that much of Japanese industry started off using this technique.

The pirates who analyse the originals are quite skilled, and are sometimes engineers working for large computer manufacturers and moonlighting. They are equipped with mainframe computers and electronics equipment costing hundreds of thousands of pounds. They see creating a "clone" as a challenge.

They pass-on the information to other pirates whose exclusive function is to set up an overnight factory in a remote part of Japan and mass produce the "clones". The marketing is handled by other pirates who specialise in this field. The whole operation is master-minded by organised crime syndicates.

They regard arcade piracy as being safer than drug trafficking.

Namco has just released a sequel to Pole Position called Pole Position Pt II. It gives you choice of four racing circuits and the backgrounds are more detailed than before.

Most arcade players in Japan really go in for convincing backgrounds and in Pole Position Pt II, there is one circuit which has a multi-level crossing and a fairground with a big wheel and roller-coasters! Also the car crashes in a more realistic fashion. You see the car break up into bits while the wheels bounce away from the crash if you are unlucky enough to go off the road.

Just recently, two companies released laser-disc motor-racing games and it looks as if Namco could have been outsmarted by them.

Taito's Laser Grand Prix (*C&VG*, November) uses Laser vision which provides actual scenes from Fuji Speedway. The visual and sound effects are superb. Tazmi has a Pole Position-like game with no less than three screens to fill the whole of your field of view!

But one arcade fanatic commented that Namco always comes up with something really original. I think he is right. In 1984 I believe that Namco will release something extraordinary using laser technology.

The current trend in arcade games in Japan are sport simulations. There are now arcade games which feature anything from water-skiing to women's volleyball! It is very likely that there will be a convincing flight simulator game next year.

Another trend is towards micro computer software. Due to the fact that Sinclair's cheap micros never reached Japan and Atari's absence from Japanese home video game system market meant that the games software industry for home micro is relatively new in Japan.

Since there is a law in Japan to protect arcade games there is a lack of computer games converted from the arcade favourites. There is an awful lot of illegal stuff about, though!

Sega Enterprises — they made Frogger, Zaxxon and Buck Rogers, Planet of Zoom — have produced their own micro called the Sega 3000 to sell their original arcade games.

Namco too has joined forces with one of the leading software distributors called Dempa. Their first offering was, predictably, Pacman!

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Frog Run	Anirog	5.95	4.95
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Game	Supplier	RRP Inc. VAT	Our Price Inc. VAT
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Matrix	Llamasoft	6.00	4.99
Gridrunner	Llamasoft	5.00	4.50
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Transylvanian Tower	Richard Shepherd	6.50	5.50
UGH	Softek	6.95	6.00
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Skramble 64	Anirog	7.95	6.99
Kong 64	Anirog	7.95	6.99
Hexpert	Anirog	7.95	6.99
Moon Buggy	Anirog	7.95	6.99
Panic 64	Interceptor	7.00	5.99
Crazy Kong	Interceptor	6.95	5.95
Frogger	Interceptor	6.95	5.95
Sprite Man	Interceptor	6.95	5.95
Attack of Mutant Camels	Llamasoft	7.50	6.50
Matrix	Llamasoft	7.50	6.50
Hovver Bovver	Llamasoft	7.50	6.50
Gridrunner	Llamasoft	5.00	4.50
The Hobbit 64	Melbourne House	14.95	12.95
Arcadia	Imagine	5.50	4.75
Purple Turtles	Quicksilva	7.95	7.00
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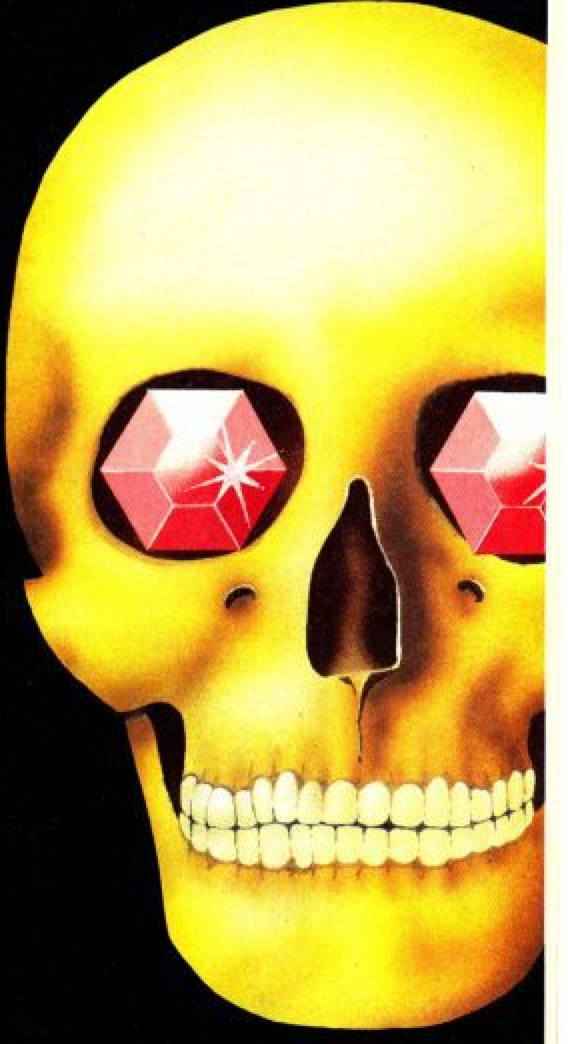
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EXTRA BITS!

If you want to extend the capabilities of your computer or games machine there are now lots of bits and pieces which you can plug into the back to make it do things better or faster, or things which it could never do before. Such plug in goodies include extra memory, better keyboards, joystick interfaces, Micronet adaptor or devices to make the beast speak or play tunes. Robert Schifreen takes a break from Bug Hunting to bring you news of some of the current plastic boxes which you can plug into your micro or games machine. Upgrading your present equipment by using add-ons means that you may not have to buy that new machine after all!

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications means making your micro talk or listen to other computers in their own language. They communicate either over the airwaves at radio frequencies or over the telephone lines.

Each has its advantages. Radio communication is only one-way whereas telephone can be both. But long conversations on the phone can be expensive. If you want to read more about this subject, dig out November's issue of *C&VG* and turn to page 114.

If you want to receive Teletext on your micro, you'll need a BBC model B with a Teletext adaptor. This lets you receive Ceefax and Oracle, which are information services broadcast by the BBC and by ITV. You just plug your TV aerial into the back of the adaptor, and the computer will do the rest.

The adaptor gives you four channels of teletext information; BBC1, BBC2, ITV and Channel 4. You can find out about such things as what's on TV tonight, the latest world news, sports news and ITV also has a kids corner with jokes and the like. Teletext is like a big electronic newspaper. You can read its pages on your TV but you can't write back to it.

The other method of communication is over the telephone. This is what systems like Micronet 800 use. This way, the computer can send messages and you can also type back.

There are loads of computers which you can dial into and most of them are free except for the price of the phone call. However, these free bulletin boards, as they're called, run on different baud rates (no pun intended) to Micronet so unfortunately you can't use a Micronet adaptor to call them.

You can buy a 300 baud modem quite cheaply from various companies, like Maplin Electronics who supply units for the Dragon, Vic-20, Commodore 64, Atari and Spectrum.

I tested the Atari one and managed to dial into some local systems and also used Maplin's own service called Cashtel which allows you to order stuff from the Maplin catalogue via your computer by typing in your credit card number.

A lot of computer clubs run bulletin boards, and you can dial them up for computing news; you can also send messages to the club by typing at your computer. This is the two-way advantage gained by using the 'phone as opposed to the airwaves.

You can set up your own bulletin board with a Maplin modem, but you'll also need some software.

You will soon be able to buy a Micronet/Prestel type modem for your BBC micro from Acorn which has some better features than the Micronet package. But it's more expensive, and you'll still have to pay a fee to join Micronet if you want to look at their private areas on the database.

You can also buy slightly cheaper modems like the Micro-Myte which will not receive Micronet or other information systems, but will allow you to talk to your friend's computers, providing he or she also has a similar modem.

This way you can send each other programs or messages, but you'll have to phone him up first to tell him to switch his modem on!

The Micronet modems offer this person-to-person facility as well as normal Micronet use, but are slightly more expensive.

STORAGE DEVICES

When you finally decide that cassettes are too slow for your needs, you'll want to look for something faster. The best thing is a real disc drive which for micros will probably use 5.25" discs.

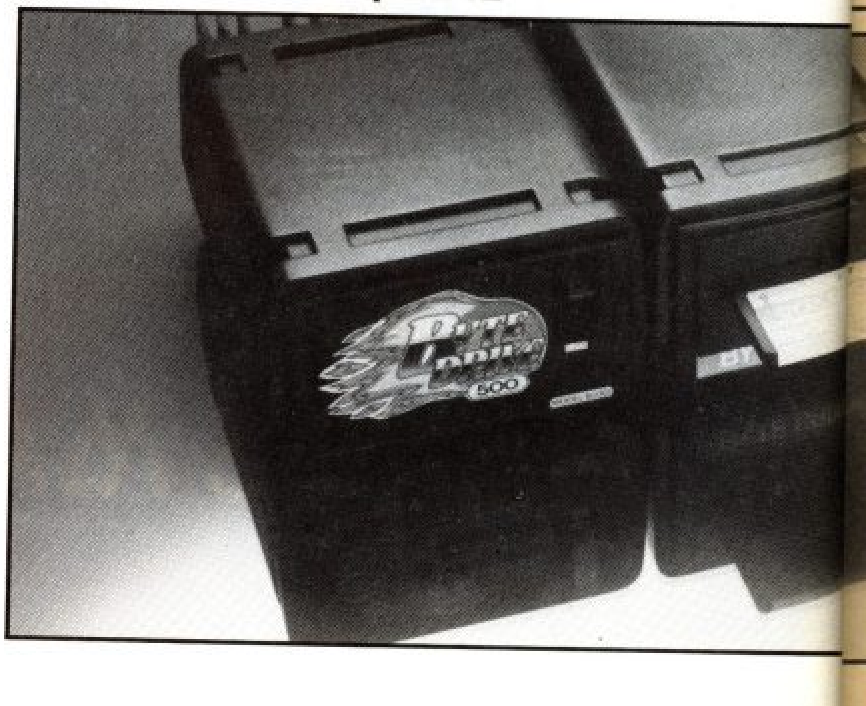
A cheaper alternative is a 3" drive which is available for many micros. You can buy a Byte Drive 500 3" system from ITL for about £250, and this contains a special cable to link the drive to your micro.

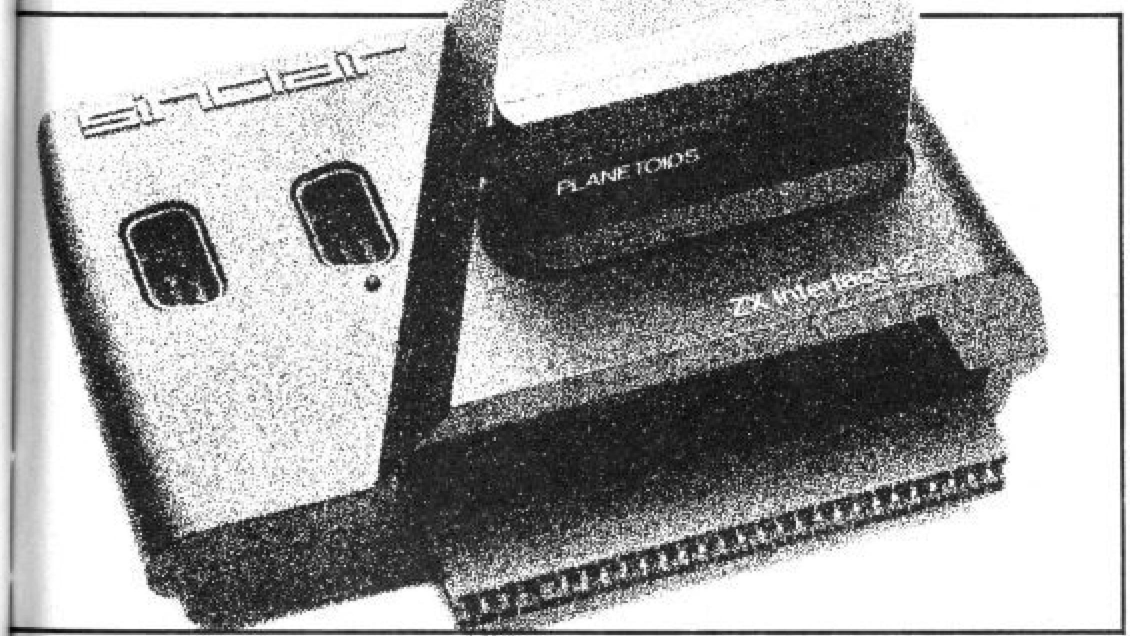
If you have two computers, or decide to change your machine, you just buy a new cable. Blank 5" discs start at about £1.50, but 3" systems use special car-

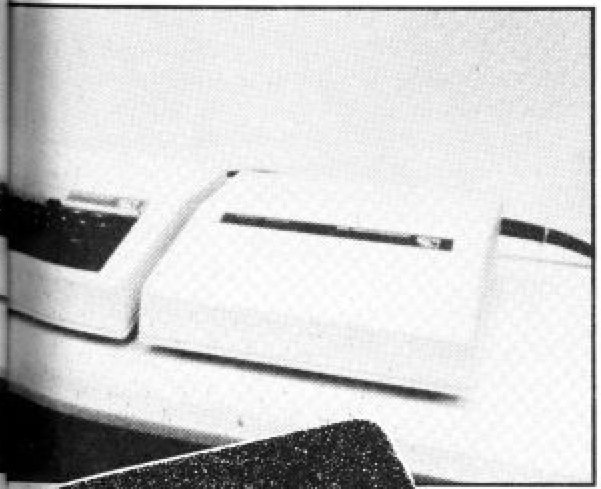
You can now fit two standard Atari-type joysticks to your Spectrum with an Interface 2. It plugs into the back of the computer, and also has a slot to take the new Sinclair software cartridges. The BBC (below) can now become a Teletext terminal with the new add-on from Acorn. As well as displaying pages of information, it can also store the data in memory and use it in its own programs.

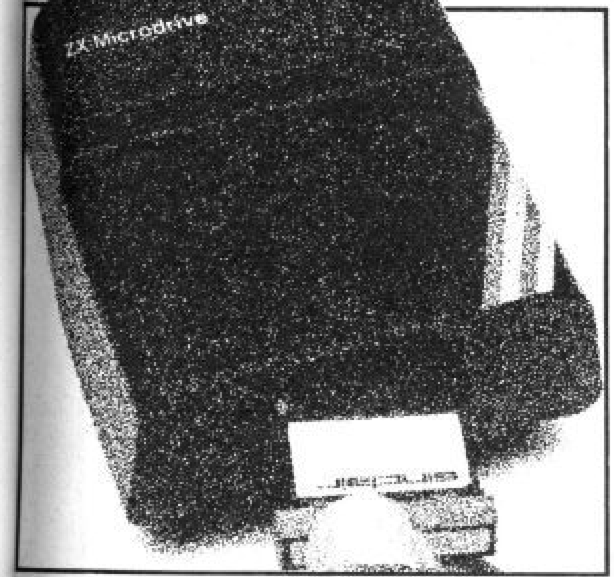


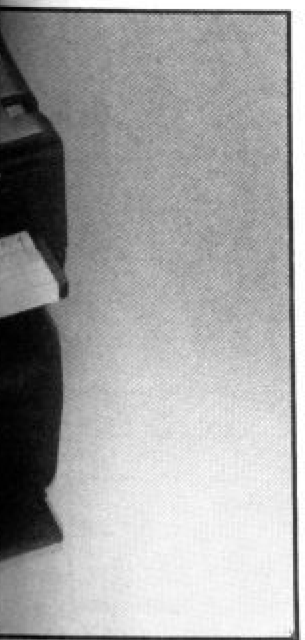
At long last, the microdrive has actually been launched. As expected, demand is still exceeding supply and it will be some time before you can just walk into Smiths and buy one. They're not really disc drives at all, just miniature cassette recorders. You can load a 16K program from a Microdrive in about 10 seconds.











The byte-drive 500 is a 3" disc drive from ITL. The small discs are enclosed in rigid plastic and currently cost over £5 each. The clever part is the cable which links the drive to the micro. This contains all the electronics, so if you change micros, you just change the cable but keep the same drive.

tridges which are currently about £6.

The Byte Drive 500 will soon be available for the Dragon, Spectrum and Commodore 64. It is already available for the Oric, BBC and Apple.

If you have a Spectrum, the official Sinclair way of progressing from cassette is the Microdrive. This costs £50 for each drive, but you'll also need an interface which is another £30. You can store between 85 and 100k on a Microdrive cartridge, and a 16k program will load in about 10 seconds.

Microdrives are fast, but they're not really discs. Inside a microdrive cartridge is a loop of high quality tape, and the drive itself is just a very accurate (supposedly) cassette recorder.

If you've got a BBC then you'll need a disc interface fitted, which costs around £90. ITL has no intention at the moment of producing one, so you'll have to use the BBC one.

MORE MEMORY

The size of the largest program which you can fit into your machine is governed by the size of the area of memory in which the computer stores it.

The problem is that although memory chips are now quite cheap, some micros still have very little RAM, as it's called. One of the first enhancements which a computer owner will make in such a case is a memory expansion.

The ZX81 although very popular has only 1k of RAM. (1k is about two screenloads of program.)

It's very easy to expand your ZX81's memory. You can buy a 16k RAM pack which just plugs into the back of the machine and costs around £30. You may have heard of the much-feared contemporary disease known as "RAM pack wobble", caused by Sinclair not putting the edge connector on their RAM pack in the right place.

This disease can be fatal to a program, as a slight wobble at the wrong time can erase a whole afternoon's typing. One cure is a blob of something sticky under the machine, although a less messy solution is to look to a different company. You can also get 64k RAM packs which allow for even more storage of data and programs.

Upgrades for the 16k Spectrum are available from Sinclair for £40, but you'll have to send your machine back to Clive, and you know how long that takes, don't you? Alternatively, you can buy a ZX81-like RAM pack which sits on the back of the machine, or some companies sell chips which you can stick inside, as long as you didn't really want the guarantee anyway.

If you're going to upgrade your Spectrum, check that the company's product will fit your particular machine. There are currently three different versions of the Spectrum in circulation and although they all look the same from the outside, there are some small variations inside which may make a difference.

Expansion for an Atari is easy; the memory comes in chunks of plastic which you install by removing the cover on top of the machine. Newer machines come with 48k but some old 400's still have only 16k. Your local dealer should be able to tell you how to improve this.

To expand a Texas TI99/4 or 4a you'll need a peripheral expansion box. This takes the form of a large aluminium crate about the size of the small freezer compartment in a fridge. (I don't know why, but everyone seems to measure the size of computers in relation to parts of fridges.)

Inside this you can then put disc drives, memory expansions and anything else. Retail price for the box alone was around £80 but that may drop now that the Texas micro is no longer being made.

Memory expansion on a Vic is peculiar. It is in the form of plug-in cartridges and comes in four flavours, which are 3k, 8k, 16k or 32k.

The annoying thing is that because the cartridge overwrites that part of memory which used to hold the contents of the screen, the screen RAM is moved to a different place.

The problem is that each cartridge puts it somewhere different, so programs written for use with an extra 3k will not necessarily run directly on a 16k machine without minor alterations. This is very inconvenient, especially for magazines who publish program listings!

If you're tired of having to do octopus impressions to play your favourite computer game a joystick interface is called for. This allows machines which normally have no provision for such a gadget to have one, and very useful they are too.

The most popular machine, which lacks a joystick interface, is the Spectrum, and there are now quite a few companies who will remedy this situation for you.

The official way is by use of the Sinclair Interface 2. This costs just under £20 — you get 5p change! — and allows two standard Atari-type controllers to be used. You can then write your own games using the joysticks to control the

EXTRA BITS!

action, or buy commercial software written for use with the device. Interface 2 also allows you to use plug-in cartridge software, although these retail at £15 a time.

The problem with all the different joystick interfaces is that they use their own systems. So a program written for use with a Kempston joystick will not run on an Interface 2 unless the program contains a routine for each and you are allowed to select which one you want.

One way round this predicament is by a programmable joystick interface. Such a beast is the one from AGF. This comes with a grid of small holes and a set of five wires.

The wires are labelled with the functions of the joystick (up, down, left, right and fire) and the holes are labelled with the keys on a Spectrum keyboard. If the game which you want to play uses the 'K' key to fire, then you plug the 'FIRE' lead into the 'K' hole and so on. Such a device is very useful.

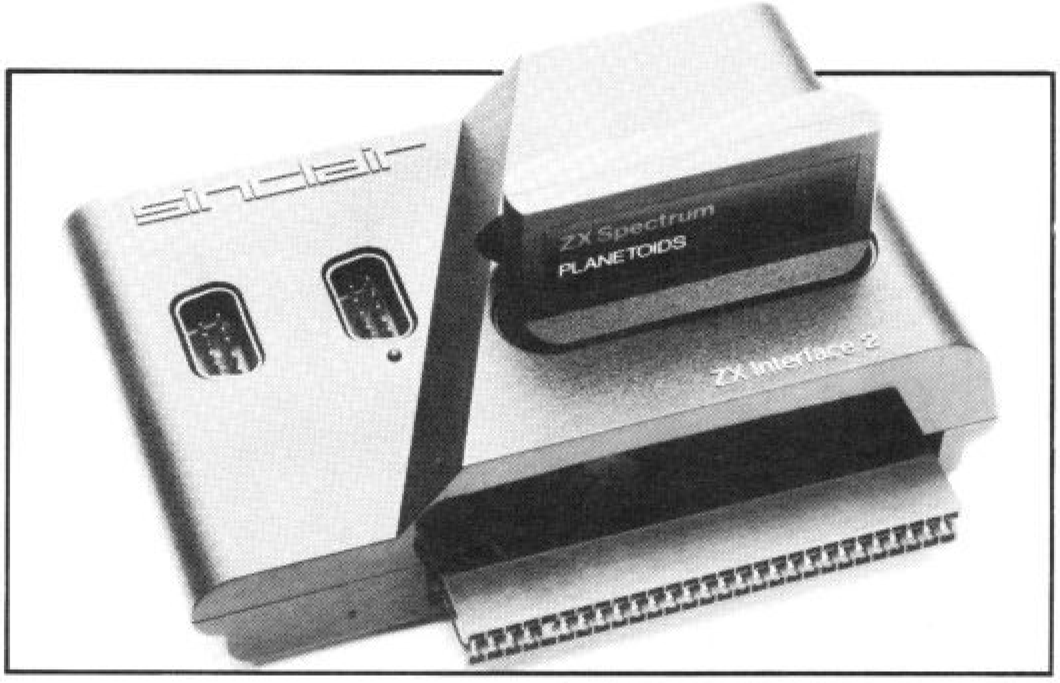
BETTER KEYBOARDS

When you finally tire of the piece of dead flesh known as your Spectrum's keyboard, there are a number of better ones around. The best are quite expensive at around £40 but they allow the whole machine to fit inside and look rather smart. One of the most popular around is made by Fuller. Kempston is also about to launch a high quality keyboard for the Spectrum, as demonstrated recently at the ZX Microfair.

You'll also find replacements for the touch-sensitive keyboard of the Atari 400 from about £65.

If you have an Atari VCS and feel like getting into computing, you can now buy an add-on keyboard from Vulcan Electronics, which is made by Spectravideo. It sits on top of the VCS and plugs into the joystick ports and the main cartridge slot and you can then program your VCS in Basic. It costs £50.

Mattel Intellivision owners can also do the same to their machine. Mattel offers a similar device, as well as a music keyboard to enable you to compose music on your machine. I don't reckon Bach would think much of it, but it's not bad.



SOUNDS AND SPEECH

If your idea of a good evening is being locked in a quiet room with a micro, then you could always get more friendly with it by talking to it or having it talk to you. But before those nice little men in white coats come to take you away, let me explain.

If you have a Pet, Vic, 64, Spectrum, ZX81 or BBC and need someone to talk to you then you could always try a Chatterbox. This costs £49 from William Stuart systems and you can program it to say anything you like. From the same company comes Big Ears which, for another £49, reverses the process and allows you to speak to your computer.

Say the word through the microphone a few times, and the machine will then remember it. If you then say it again, it should recognise what you're saying.

If it's a Spectrum you've got then the Currah microspeech is another possibility besides a Chatterbox. It works on the same system and sells for under £30.

BBC owners can also choose the official Acorn speech system, which is a computerised version of Kenneth Kendall. Personally I can just about recognise him, but many say that it might just as well be Moira Stuart. (In fact, I wish it was.)

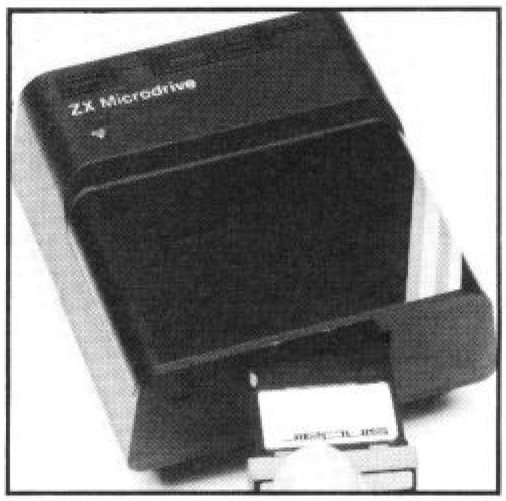
If you prefer noise to plain speech then there are a couple of units available to improve the sound of a Spectrum by providing it with the same sound chip as the BBC and Oric.

WHAT'S LEFT OVER

Finally, we come to the rest of the oddments which space did not allow separate headings for.

If you own an Aquarius, then this year should see the introduction of the home controller unit. This plugs into the machine and allows you to control household appliances by using special plugs which go into the wall and receive messages from the computer. Such a system is also planned for the Electron.

If you have an Atari VCS then you may already know about the super expander. This lets you load games from cassette, and also improves the quality of the graphics slightly.



Printerface is a mixture of interface and printer and is a device to let you link a printer to a micro. DAMS office systems supplies an IEEE cartridge to allow a Vic or 64 to connect to any Commodore printer (or disc drive for that matter.)

The Spectrum will only work with a ZX printer, but you can use the RS232 connection on an Interface 1 to link a large range of printers. If you have a Centronics-type printer then Kempston will supply you with a suitable interface for a Spectrum.

If you own a computer other than a Sinclair machine but would be perfectly happy to use a cheap (£40) Sinclair printer, you can get a suitable interface for many popular micros, including the BBC, Dragon and Vic, from Microtanic Computer Systems of London.

LIGHT SENSORS

Another way of controlling a game is with a light sensing device. Usually mounted in a pen-like barrel (and, therefore, called a light pen) these allow you to draw patterns on the screen as though it were a piece of paper.

Recently launched is the Light Rifle from Stack Systems of Bootle, Merseyside. It comes with three demo games where you have to shoot at targets on screen, just like those old TV game machines, but these games are better as they rely on all the facilities of the micro. You can also write your own shooting-time programs. The light rifle costs just under £30 and versions are available for the Spectrum, Vic and 64.

C & VG SOFTWARE FORM

Have you written a games program which you feel is just right for C&VG? If so we have come up with a form to ensure that we can test it out and give you our views on it, as quickly as possible.

We would prefer a tape and listing but can work from just a tape and will return it to you if it doesn't find its way into the magazine. We will also need an additional sheet explaining the game and its theme. And any documentation like lists of variables or how certain routines are working, would be of great help to beginners. Please make sure that your name, address and the program name is on everything you send us, including the cassette itself.

This form will merely help us to keep a check on your game as it goes through our testing process and make sure we have all the information we need to present it properly in the magazine.

If you don't want to cut up the magazine, we will accept photocopies or close copies of this page. This form will be appearing regularly in C&VG issues from now on.

Remember we pay £10 for each listing published and you could win our Programmer of the Year Contest where we will try to turn the winner into a best-selling games author.

Program name: ....

Machine make: .... Model ....

Other models it should run on: .... Number of K needed to run it: ....

Other equipment (joysticks, Extended Basic, add ons, etc.) needed to run it: ....

Author's Christian name: .... Surname: ....

Address: ....

....

.... Tel: .... Date: ....

Type of game: (If original please say so) ....

Loading instructions: ....

Game instructions: (If not included in the listing) ....

....

....

Office use only

Date received: ....

Acknowledgement sent: ☐

Name of evaluator: ....

Date sent out: ....

Date due back: ....

Needs to be returned to author for alterations: ☐ Date sent: ....

Due to be published in issue of magazine. ....

Evaluator's comments

Good enough to publish ☐

Needs some tidying up ☐

Not worth publishing ☐

Same game already published on this micro ☐

Wouldn't load ☐

GRAPHICS

By Garry Marshall

MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR 64

Over the next few issues, I shall be looking at the graphics capabilities of the Commodore 64. This new computer has very impressive graphics facilities, which I'll be helping you make the most of.

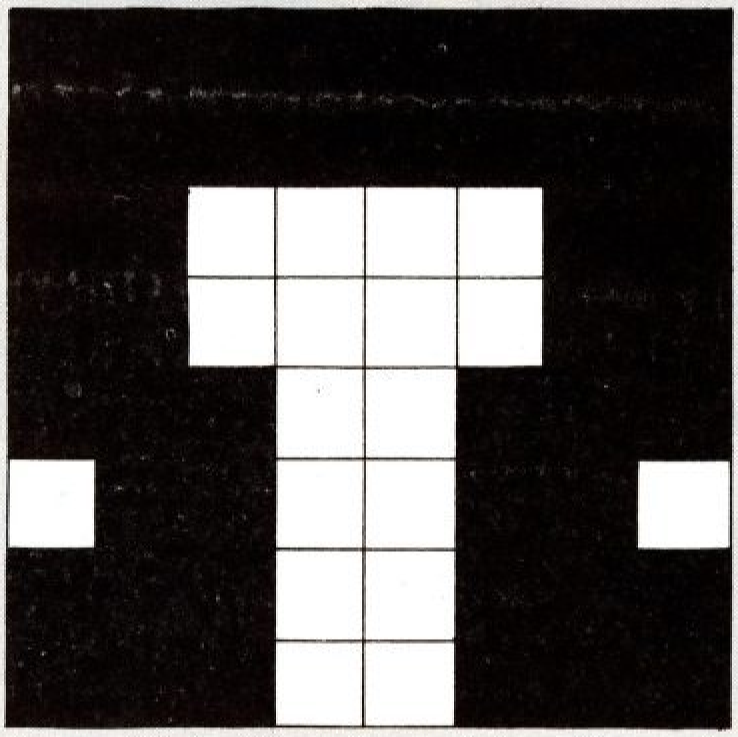
I'll begin by looking at the way that user-defined characters are created. In fact, the entire keyboard is "soft" in the sense that it is possible to redefine the character that is associated with every key.

This is possible because the Commodore 64 really does have 64k of random-access memory. All the ROM, including the Basic ROM, the operating system ROM and the character generation ROM, is covered by RAM, so that ROMs can be switched out and the range of characters that they provide supplied instead by RAM.

Because of this, the characters that are stored in the character generator and printed from the keyboard can be copied from the character generator ROM into RAM so that all the characters are available when this ROM is disabled.

Then we can change the characters associated with any key as we wish. To write the program to do this, all we need to know is the addresses of the registers that control the operations involved.

The characters themselves are based on an 8x8 dot matrix. Each dot can be on or off, and the resulting character is defined by using a 1 for a dot that is on and a 0 for a dot that is off. Then each row of the character is represented by the decimal equivalent of the binary number for the whole row. This is illustrated in figure 1.



In this way, we could design a completely new style for each letter of the alphabet or a set of graphics characters for a particular application.

The program I shall give allows the character in the illustration to be assigned to the key associated with any letter of the alphabet to that, when that key is pressed, it gives this character rather than the letter.

The program starts by setting the contents of location 53272 to make the video chip take character descriptions from the area of RAM starting at the location with address 12288, rather than from the character ROM.

Line 20 prevents this area of RAM from being overwritten by a Basic program. Then lines 30 and 40 permit the character ROM to be assessed so that its contents can be copied into RAM with lines 50 to 70.

Lines 80 and 90 then return the computer to its original state. Lines 100 and 110 request that a letter is entered from the keyboard, accept an input and check that it is a letter, before allowing control to pass to the remainder of the program which assigns the character in the illustration to the key for that letter.

If you run the program, you will notice that all occurrences of the letter on the screen are replaced by the graphics character straight away. This is because the screen refresh circuitry now refers to the area of RAM prescribed by the program rather than the character ROM for character descriptions. Also, of course, pressing the key for the letter given to the program now gives our character rather than the letter itself. The program can be used as the basis of a scheme for changing the characters associated with any and every key on the keyboard.

More on the Commodore 64's interesting graphics capabilities in the next issue.

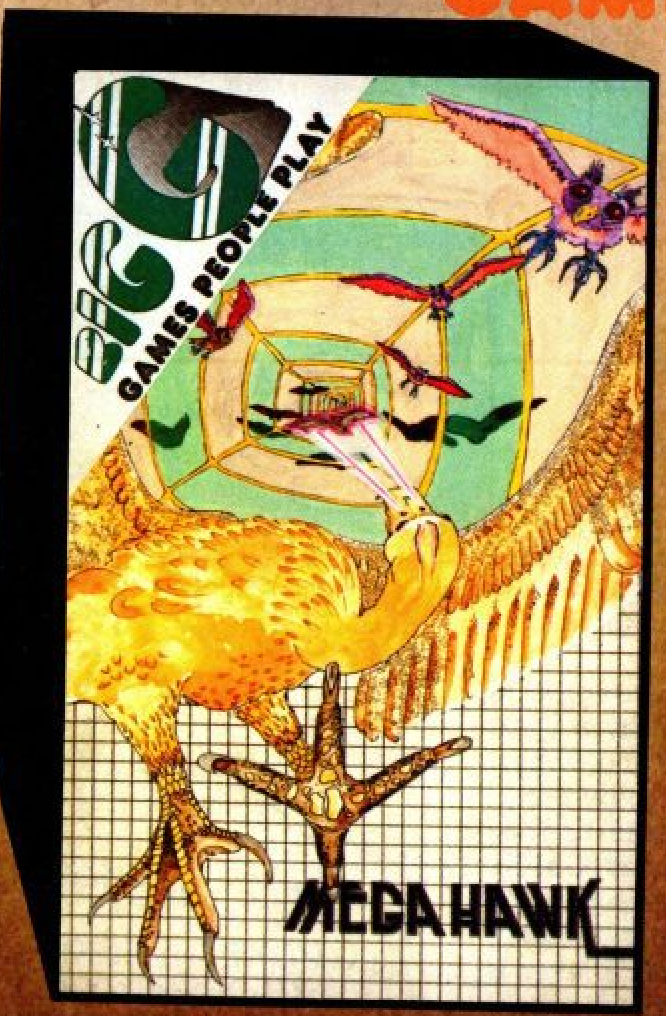
The program is:

```
10 POKE
   53272,(PEEK(53272)
   AND 240) + 12
20 POKE 52,48: POKE
   56,48: CLR
30 POKE
   56334,PEEK(56334)
   AND 254
40 POKE 1,PEEK(1)
   AND 251
50 FOR K=0 TO 2047
60 POKE K+12288,
   PEEK(K+53248)
70 NEXT K
80 POKE 1,PEEK(1) OR
   4
90 POKE
   56334,PEEK(56334)
   OR 1
100 INPUT "LETTER";
   L$
110 I+ASC(L$)-64: IF
   (I<1) OR (I>26) THEN
   100
120 FOR N=0 TO 7
130 READ X: POKE
   12288+8*I+N,X
140 NEXT N
150 DATA 255, 255, 195,
   195
160 DATA 231, 102, 231,
   231
```

for the COMMODORE 64

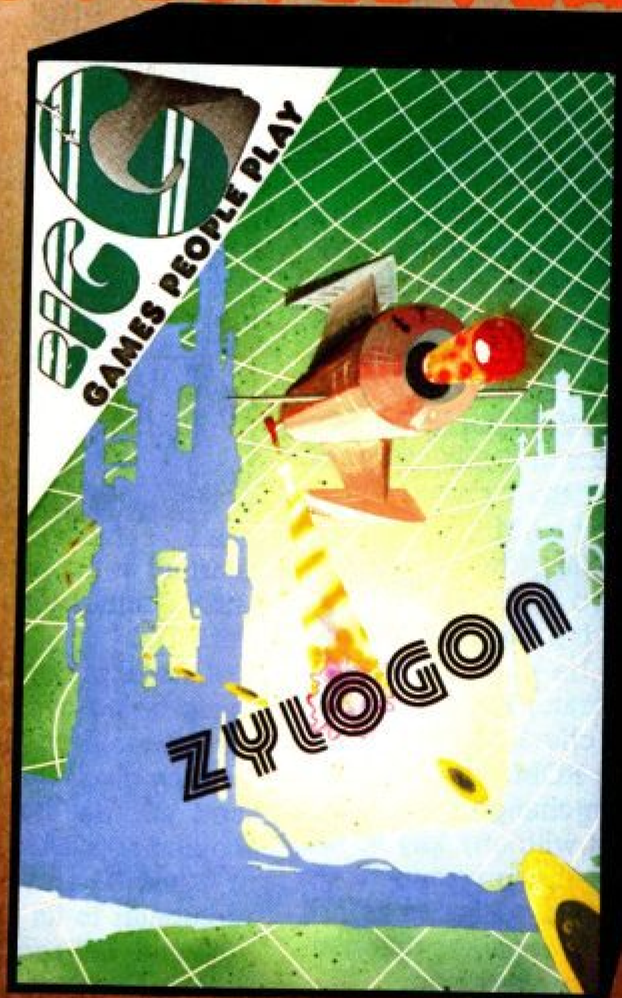
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CHART TOPPERS

	SPECTRUM	ZX 81		VIC-20	ATARI 400/800	
1	ATIC ATAC (Ultimate)	KRAZY KONG (PSS)	1	WIZARD AND PRINCESS (Melbourne House)	POLE POSITION (Atari)	1
2	LUNAR JETMAN (Ultimate)	3D MONSTER MAZE (New Generation)	2	CRAZY KONG (Interceptor)	DONKEY KONG (Atari)	2
3	ANT ATTACK (Quicksilva)	FLIGHT SIMULATION (Psion)	3	ARCADIA (Imagine)	DIAMONDS (English Software)	3
4	MANIC MINER (Bug Byte)	FOOTBALL MANAGER (Addictive Games)	4	WACKY WAITERS (Imagine)	ZAXXON (Datasoft)	4
5	CHEQUERED FLAG (Psion)	3D GRAND PRIX (Artic)	5	GRIDRUNNER (Llamasoft)	DIG DUG (Atari)	5
6	VALHALLA (Movisoft)	MAZE DEATH RACE (PSS)	6	SKYHAWK (Quicksilva)	COMPUTER WAR GAMES (Thorn EMI)	6
7	COOKIE (Ultimate)	HANG GLIDER (Suncom)	7	MATRIX (Llamasoft)	SUSPENDED (Infocom)	7
8	ZZOOM (Imagine)	ZX CHESS (Artic)	8	SARGON II (Chess)	FORT APOCALYPSE (Synapse)	8
9	TRANS AM (Ultimate)	SEA WAR (Panda)	9	BEWITCHED (Imagine)	NECROMANCER (Synapse)	9
10	SCRABBLE (Psion)	PROTECTOR (Sinclair)	10	GORF (Commodore)	LEGGIT (Imagine)	10

	COMMODORE 64	DRAGON 32		BBC B
1	THE HOBBIT (Melbourne House)	PETTIGREW'S DIARY (Shards Software)	1	THE HOBBIT (Melbourne House)
2	RADAR RAT RACE (Commodore)	MINED OUT! (Quicksilva)	2	MISSILE CONTROL (Gemini)
3	ARCADIA (Imagine)	THE KING (Microdeal)	3	SALOON SALLY (Psion)
4	CRAZY KONG (Interceptor)	TALKING ANDROID ATTACK (Microdeal)	4	MR MEN (Mirrorsoft)
5	PURPLE TURTLES (Quicksilva)	CUTHBERT GOES WALKABOUT (Microdeal)	5	SNOOKER (Visions)
6	AQUAPLANE (Quicksilva)	GRIDRUNNER (Salamander)	6	SNAPPER (Acornsoft)
7	3 DEEP SPACE (Postern)	FROGGER (Microdeal)	7	PHILOSOPHERS QUEST (Acornsoft)
8	METAGALACTIC LLAMAS (Llamasoft)	NIGHT FLIGHT (Microdeal)	8	HUNCHBACK (Ocean)
9	SUPER DOGFIGHT (Terminal Software)	CUTHBERT IN THE JUNGLE (Microdeal)	9	737 SIMULATOR (Salamander)
10	CAESAR THE CAT (Mirrorsoft)	LOST IN SPACE (Salamander)	10	KILLER GORILLA (Micropower)

Welcome to our revamped Charts page. The page which tells you just what games are the tops among games players everywhere. This issue we introduce three new computers, the Dragon, Commodore 64 and BBC B, to our chart rundown.

We reckon that these charts give you, the games player, a true reflection of the best value for money games around — and like our Hall of Fame — we hope they give games players a guide to what's best to buy from among the groaning shelves of software in your local computer shop.

The Hobbit, just converted for the BBC and the Commodore 64, has gone in at number one on both machines. Diamonds, from English Software, is the first home-produced game for the Atari to make any impression on our charts. It's at number three already.

For the first time ever, one company dominates the Spectrum charts with games at numbers one and two. The company is Ultimate and the games are Atic Atac and Lunar Jetman.

There're lots of great games bubbling under the charts too. Watch this space for further information!



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MATRIX

Jeff Minter has taken Gridrunner – the game that topped bestseller charts in USA and UK – and created an awesome sequel.
Graphically superb, it features multiple screens, new aliens and attack waves, mystery bonuses, renegade humanoids, deflexor fields, diagonal tracking, countdown/panic phase and much, much more.... Packed into 20 mind-zapping zones and accompanied by incredible sonics.
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ATTACK of the MUTANT CAMELS

Planet earth needs you! Hostile aliens have used genetic engineering to mutate camels from normally harmless beasts into 90 foot high, neutronium shielded, laser-spitting death camels!! Can you fly your tiny, manoeuvrable fighter over the mountainous landscape to weaken and destroy the camels before they invade the humans stronghold! You must withstand withering laser fire and alien UFOs. Game action stretches over 10 screen lengths and features superb scrolling, scanner 1/2 player actions and unbelievable animation! Play this game and you'll never be able to visit a zoo again without getting an itchy trigger finger! Awesome m/c action!
Available for Commodore 64 **£7.50.**

HOVER BOVVER

A totally original arcade game for C64 featuring outstanding graphics and a sound track created by a professional Piano Wizard. Gordon Bennet has borrowed his neighbour's Air-Mo lawnmower. Mow your way through as many of the 16 lawns as you can before the pursuing neighbour retrieves his mower. Set your dog onto the neighbour to help you out of tight spots and don't annoy the gardener. Try not to plough through the neat flower beds or overheat your mower!
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REVENGE OF THE MUTANT CAMELS

At last the long awaited sequel to Attack of the Mutant Camels is available. You are controlling a ninety foot high, neutronium shielded, lazer spitting death camel; leading a rebellion against your evil Zzyaxian overlords. The game features beautiful smooth scrolling graphics and no less than 42 different attack waves, more than any game in video history. The challenge of play will last for months as you battle to see what's on the next wave.



GRIDRUNNER

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WELL, JUST WHAT IS A MANDROID . . . ?

I spy with my little eye something beginning with C&VG! Yes, it's next month's reader friendly magazine all ready to banish the post-Christmas blues.

And have we got some surprises in store! Come with us on a trip into the murky world of international espionage, agents, double agents, triple agents and even quadruple agents — if we can learn to spell it in time.

Watch out for the front cover with a James Bond touch — and the special free gift. We're not telling you just what the gift is yet — who knows the KGB might be listening in, or the CIA might have this typewriter bugged.

The man behind the Seventh Empire and our amazing 3D programs, Mike Singleton, has come up with another winner. A computer-moderated board game!

Mike will be supplying the programs — and C&VG will be bringing you the world — well a map of it anyway — so you can muster your intelligence forces and beat your evil opponents. A big full-colour map/board will be found splashed across the centre of our next issue and there will also be a computer overlay to help you play the game — plus that special secret free gift!

Demand for this special issue is bound to be high — so why not place an advance order with your newsagent now — but beware he might be a Masterspy!

THE PROGRAMS

Have we got some great games for you next month? You bet! For Spectrum owners we delve into the magic of 3D graphic once again — but you won't need the special glasses this time! It's a 3D maze game written by Henry Wright for the 48k Spectrum.

For the Commodore 64 we've got a graphic adventure-style game called Centre Crystal. Go on a quest for the lost crystal in this multi-screen game.

Texas owners can catch up with the Scramble craze with our arcade-style all action shoot out called Airstrike. There's more warlike action for Vic owners in Minefield. Out in the desert lurks a tank commander blasting away at enemy planes and tanks — could it be you?

We take Atari 400 owners back to medieval times with Wall Defence. Can you protect your castle from stealthy enemies?

Go for gold on the Dragon 32 in Gold Prospector. Climb a building to reach the gold — but watch out for acid baths and bottomless pits.

Sharp owners who like to take a gamble will enjoy Slot Machine — an accurate representation of those money grabbing one armed bandits — but this one will only cost you the price of this magazine.

There will be other listings too — but we're keeping those secret. So don't forget to rush out to your newsagent on February 16th and grab a copy of *Computer and Video Games*!

THE EMPIRE

As you may have already guessed the Seventh Empire is missing from the pages of this issue. What's the excuse this time!

Well, it's like this you see. There we were, happily feeding our office Pet the Empire instructions for the final move, when all of a sudden it says: "Look, everyone else is having a good time getting ready for Christmas and you are expecting me to process all this Empire business! I've got relatives too, you know. And I've got to get a present for my little Vic 20. With that, its screen went blank and we couldn't raise even the smallest bleep from it.

So it looks like the now infamous Seventh Empire gremlins have pulled out all the stops to get their claws into the Empire in its dying stages. But rest assured Empire freaks, we will resurrect the office Pet in time for the next issue when we WILL announce the overall winner of this interstellar conflict.

Anyway, for now we'll just have to grovel and apologise for the Pet.

Now where did I put that baseball bat. I'll give it Christmas spirit. . . .



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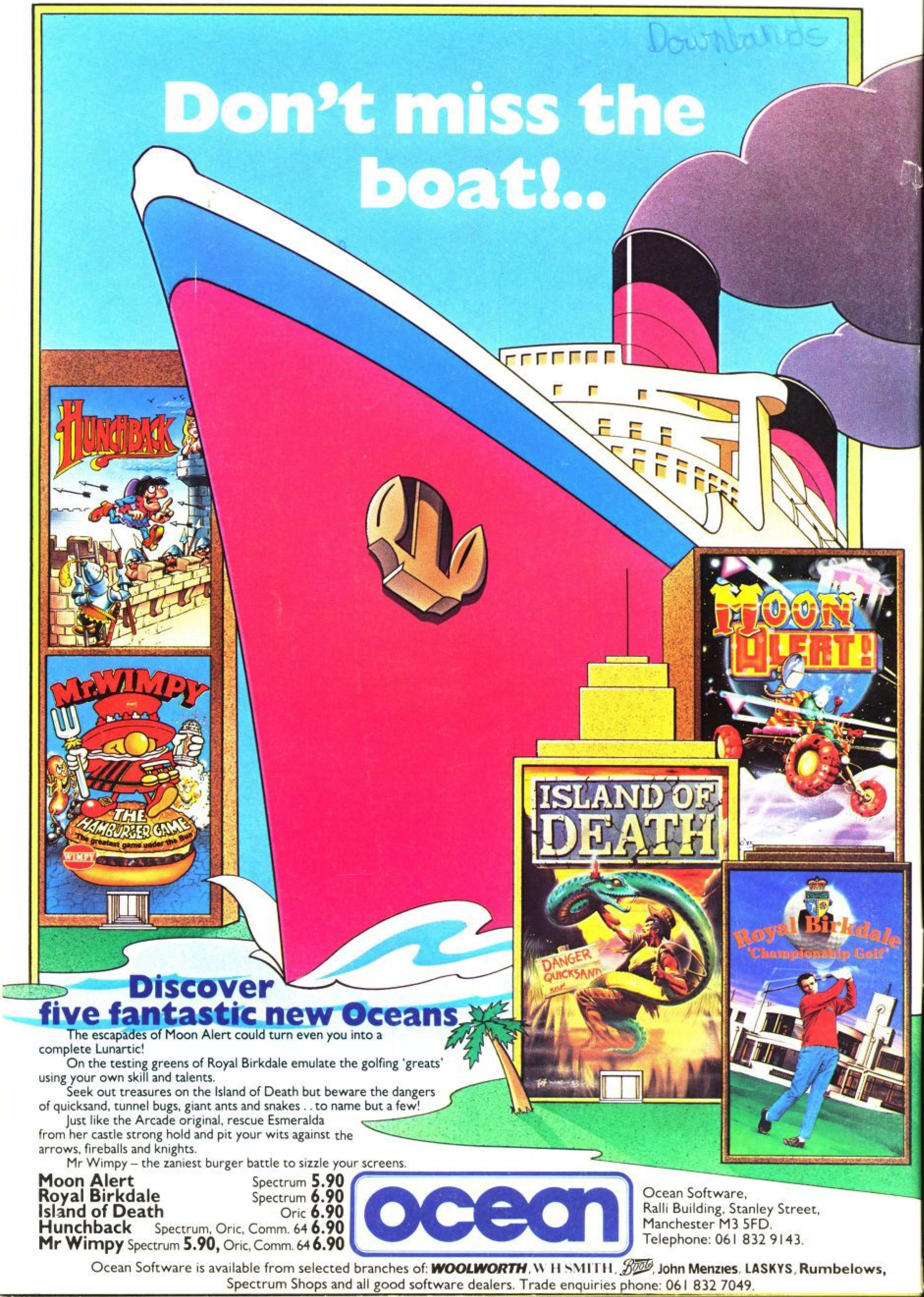
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